



MASSACHUSETTS 01720

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2017
7:00 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Room 126

AHC Members Present: Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair,
Katie Green (KG BoS Liaison)

1. BD called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm following a delay to achieve a quorum of Board members. The only Citizen Concern expressed was from Anne Forbes who raised the issue of commercial parking for rail commuters on residential properties near the South Acton train station. BD stated that this issue was off the table and no zoning changes to permit this were currently planned.
2. BK was not in attendance but updated the group on several issues via email. He reported that there was only one work application on the Zoning Board of Appeals web site for 1 Brucewood Rd. The owner wanted to demolish the existing 1950's house and split the lot up for three houses. Since this property is not on the CRL this was not an issue.
3. On the Forest Cemetery nomination, BD updated the group via email on the CPA proposal to place it on the National Register of Historic Places. He indicated that a bid to do the site survey work was accepted and that Phase 1 is complete.
4. DH provided an update on the consolidation of the MACRIS and Acton CRL buildings and sites into a single authoritative listing. It was previously agreed that CRL would be phased out in favor of MACRIS. DH downloaded the MACRIS database for Acton buildings into a spreadsheet and added the CRL listings. It was determined that 46 CRL entries were missing from MACRIS and 97 MACRIS listings were missing from the CRL. It was agreed to develop a list of the CRL properties not in MACRIS and apply for CPC funds next year to develop building inventory forms for these structures.

5. The CPC proposal for the town to purchase 62 Harris Street (old brick schoolhouse site) was submitted and a presentation to the CPC is scheduled for January. BK will make that presentation.
6. Following a discussion at the previous meeting to include the Kennedy Service Building at the cemetery (104 Concord Rd.) in the CRL, it was determined that it was in MACRIS. It was also agreed to develop an inventory form for 53 River St. This may require not just a building form but an archeology site form given the old mill that used to be on the property.
7. The only historic plaque request was from 540 Massachusetts Avenue and was approved.
8. A request for restoration of 88 Arthur Davis drawings and drawings was made by the Acton Memorial Library. The AHC felt that these cultural items were outside of its historic building and site preservation scope but wanted to support the proposed restoration, using CPC funds, of these donations from Richard Nylander.
9. The AHC approved the changes and updates to the Demolition Delay By-Law, and BD said that he would forward this update to Chapter N (Procedure for the Demolition of Historically or Architecturally Significant Buildings) to the Board of Selectmen through our liaison Katie Green. It is envisioned that there will be one public meeting to get residents' input and then it will be proposed as an agenda item at the April 2018 Town Meeting.
10. November AHC Minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Herrick

Cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Historic District Commission