

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2019
7:30 pm
Town Hall, Room 126

Present: Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Jaye Oman (JO), Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair, Bob Ferrara (BF), Brad Maxwell (BM), Bill Klauer (BK)

Absent: David Martin (BoS Liaison)

1. Opening

Chair Bill Dickinson opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

2. Regular Business

- 1) Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the AHC's July 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.
- 2) Citizen Concerns: Anne Forbes mentioned that the Town is interested in declaring 3 School Street (on the Cultural Resource List) surplus property and selling it to an abutter. The AHC will research. Terra Friedrichs discussed the 40B slated for 361 Great Road. AHC will research to see if it is historically significant, although the sense of the group was that it was not.
- 3) Any ZBA/Planning Board projects on the CRL: DH stated that he had reviewed the meeting agendas and hearings of the ZBA and did not recognize any historic properties for review.
- 4) PAL Associates – CRL to MACRIS Update: JO updated the group on the communications and work-to-date with our contractor for this CPC project, Public Archaeological Lab (PAL). PAL is moving forward on adding new and updating existing building records in the MACRIS database. It was agreed not to add the records for historical monuments in Acton since this was out of scope.
- 5) Demolition Delay By-Law – Status Report: It was announced that the Attorney General approved the changes to the demolition delay by-law passed at Town Meeting. As a result, the Commission will consider all approved changes effective immediately.

3. New/Special Business

- 6) Discuss bridge project between Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and Trail-Through-Time: BD is continuing to socialize the idea of linking the Trail-Through-Time with the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail by spanning the Nashoba Brook with a bridge on the old Davis Road.
- 7) Discuss creation of an Archeological By-Law: The issue of developing this by-law for Action was discussed. It is seen as a long-term project in which other towns' approaches and laws will be reviewed and discussed with a goal of incremental progress over time.
- 8) 90 School Street MHC 106 Review Request. No Updates.
- 9) Historical Marker Application Bill K will research and review the status of this database of Acton historical markers.
- 10) Commission Walk Thru at Assabet River Rail Trail: The AHC agreed to the request from the Friends of the Assabet River Rail Trail to walk parts of the newly opened sections.
- 11) Demolition of 30 Spruce St.: The historic Gilmore Barn was demolished without notifying the AHC. BD to discuss with Frank Ramsbottom
- 12) Town Purchase of 21 Maple St.: The town is planning to purchase the former South Acton Lumber Company property for more train station parking.
- 13) MACRIS Inventory Numbers on Property Cards: Brian McMullen, director of the Assessor Dept. is interested in adding MACRIS property id numbers to his assessment cards. JO will follow up with him.
- 14) Receipt of Demolition Application for 34 Elm St. The developer of this property outlined his plans to partially demolish elements of this property. BD will set up a hearing for the demolition request at the September AHC meeting. Meanwhile, a second walk-through will be scheduled for September 11 for those Commission members who were unable to attend the first walk through.
- 15) Friends of Pine Hawk Letter Regarding Nagog Pond Water Treatment Plant: The AHC will review the archaeological study conducted by PAL of the area of Nagog Pond that Concord wants to drain to install a new 25' input pipe as part of their pumping station

expansion.

4. Consent Items - None

5. Adjournment: At 9:24 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of July, 2019