

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2019
7:30 pm
Town Hall, Room 121

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

Absent: David Martin (BoS Liaison), Bob Ferrara (BF)

1. Opening

Chair Bill Dickinson opened the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

2. Regular Business

- 1) Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the AHC’s August 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.
- 2) Citizen Concerns: No citizens’ concerns were expressed on topics not on the agenda.
- 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). We accepted PAL’s Stage One methodology for adding new and updating existing building records to the MACRIS database. They accepted our candidates for new and existing building and site inventory forms. Most of the work will involve updating existing inventory forms.
- 5) Bridge Project between Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and TTT: 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. He has discussed this with many of the stakeholders and reviewed several bridge designs. BD will apply for 2020 Community Preservation Committee funds to move this forward.

- 6) Archaeological By-Law: This topic will be addressed when Bob Ferrara can participate.

3. New/Special Business

- 1) Demolition Delay By-Law Review: Now that the Attorney General has approved the changes to Acton's demolition delay by-law passed at Town Meeting, BD is explaining it to key enforcing departments starting with Frank Ramsbottom, the Building Commissioner.
- 2) Demolition of 30 Spruce Street. Despite being on the Cultural Resource List, the historic Gilmore barn was demolished by the owner without the AHC being notified. BD followed up with Frank Ramsbottom who apologized for the oversight due to computer application issues involving when alerts are displayed when filling out demolition form requests.
- 3) 90 School Street MHC 106 Review Update: MHC will have no comments on any adverse effects of this housing development project. Thus no further action will be taken by them.
- 4) Historical Marker Application JO talked with Lisa Soo of the Acton Historical Society who created this inventory of historic markers and commemorative sites in Acton. JO will work with Lisa on any updates needed.
- 5) 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 after the CRL to MACRIS project is complete.
- 6) Comment on Nagog Pond Water Treatment Plant by PAL: The AHC felt it did not have the expertise to make comments on this document. BD will send a letter to the Friends of Pine Hawk asking to see their letter in response and will then comment.
- 7) Vote on Putting 361 and 363 Great Road on CRL: The AHC voted unanimously 6-0 to take no action about putting this property on the Cultural Resource List.
- 8) Status of Forest Cemetery Consultant – CPC Request: BK will follow-up.

4. Consent Items - None

5. Adjournment: At 8:41 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of August 2019