



MASSACHUSETTS 01720

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – November 8, 2017
7:00 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Room 126

AHC Members Present: Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair,
Bill Klauer (BK), Raoul Smith, Brad Maxwell

1. BD called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. The only Citizen Concern expressed was from Anne Forbes who raised the issue of commercial parking for rail commuters on residential properties at the South Acton train station. Because these properties are within the South Acton Village (53 River St. was the specific case raised) there is concern about the effect of zoning that permits property owners to create parking spaces around their yards.
2. On the Forest Cemetery nomination, BD updated the group 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 this work has begun.
3. Because BK was not in attendance he was unable to report whether the Zoning Board of Appeals web site listed any work applications for buildings on the Cultural Resource List (CRL).
4. No updates 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 will work on this project and show results at the next meeting. VB will continue to review the need for additional building inventory forms for CRL structures
5. The issue of 62 Harris Street (old brick schoolhouse site) was raised as a possible site for the construction of a new fire station to serve the North Acton area that has seen a rise in population over the last decade. BD and BK will be submitting a CPA proposal for \$315k to acquire the

property for the town and structurally renovate the school house.

6. No updates from DH on the Hosmer House frontage taking proposal as part of the Kelley's Corner streetscaping initiative. Until there are new developments, this item will be taken off the agenda for future meetings.
7. It was agreed to add the Kennedy Service Building at the cemetery (104 Concord Rd.) to the CRL. An inventory form will be created. 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.
8. Brad Maxwell reported no news on the historical plaques on public buildings initiative. The goal of this effort is to provide historic plaques on all qualifying, municipally-owned buildings. Brad will contact the Historic District Commission to get their input. An application for a residence plaque at 3 Half-Moon Hill (344 Central St.) was received
9. As far as changes and updates to the Demolition Delay By-Law, BM shared a marked up copy of Chapter N (Procedure for the Demolition of Historically or Architecturally Significant Buildings) recommending more specificity regarding current regulations. Following a discussion and additional edits a motion was made to accept the changes as agreed to and submit it to the town. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote unanimously. It was agreed to submit this new draft 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. October AHC Minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Herrick

Cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Historic District Commission