

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2019
7:30 pm
Town Hall, Room 126

Present: Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Jaye Oman (JO), Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair, David Martin (BoS Liaison), Bob Ferrara (non-voting future Associate member)

Absent: Brad Maxwell (BM), Bill Klauer (BK)

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 June 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 5-0.
- 2) Citizen Concerns: Anne Forbes asked whether the town Assessors Office used the MACRIS inventory form survey numbers on their property cards maintained for taxes. She suggested we find out, and if not whether they would be interested in adding these unique IDs to their taxable property database. DH will follow-up. Anne also mentioned that a historic property at 30 Spruce Street was demolished, apparently without town permission or the AHC knowing about it. BD will follow up with Frank Ramsbottom.
- 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) Cultural Resource List project update: JO updated the group on the communications and work-to-date with our contractor for this CPC project, Public Archaeological Lab (PAL). Preliminary information on properties found within the Cultural Resource List (CRL) but not MACRIS, and properties within MACRIS but not the CRL were given to PAL. PAL replied with comments on the data that were reviewed at the June project kick-off meeting. All of PAL’s recommendations were approved involving the creation of 31 new inventory forms and updates on about 27 existing MACRIS records. There will be additional work on verifying and updating correct street addresses. JO will continue to

oversee the CPC project work.

- 5) Demolition Delay By-Law – Status Report: Following the approval of the AHC-proposed changes to the Chapter N town bylaw at the April 1 Town Meeting, we will wait for the approval of the Mass. AG before proceeding.

3. New/Special Business

- 6) Discuss bridge project between Rail Trail and TTT: BD talked with Tom Tidman, the Natural Resources Director about linking the Trail Through Time with the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail using the old Davis Road. Tom thought it was an excellent idea and recommended writing a CPA proposal for funding. He also recommended socializing the idea by briefing the appropriate town committees and departments to gauge their interest. BD will follow up.
- 7) Discuss creation of an Archeological By-Law: Tabled until the next meeting
- 8) Discuss 90 School Street HDC letter. As follow-up from the last meeting, BD wrote a letter asking for a Section 106 historical impact review given the number of pre-contact artifacts that have been found in the area.
- 9) Nagog Pond Archaeological Plan Update. The AHC read the plan that was prepared, and PAL is working on developing a protection plan to mitigate the risk to the historical elements within the property. After their plan is complete there will be a 45-day local review period followed by a Mass Historical Commission 30-day review period.
- 10) Historical Marker Applications An application for an historical plaque for the property at 132 Central Street was received and approved. BK has been asked to comment on the building name and date.
- 11) Discuss Commission walk-thru at Assabet River Rail Trail: BK has been asked to clarify the purpose of this walk-through.

4. Consent Items - None

5. Adjournment: At 9:03 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of June, 2019