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## ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2011  
7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Rm. 121

AHC Members Present: Kimberley Connors-Hughes (KCH), chair, Victoria Beyer (VB), Bill Dickinson (BD), Jim Chiarelli (JC), Brad Maxwell (BM)

1. KCH called the meeting to order. Minutes for the Commission's December 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved.
2. The Commission's discussion commenced with recent applications under the historic plaque program. An application for 105 School Street was referred to the Historic District Commission (HDC) for review, and the Commission confirmed that, upon receiving word of the HDC's approval, BM was authorized to sign and issue an order form for the plaque for 105 School Street. In addition, the Commission reviewed the new application received for 481 Main Street, which also lies within one of Acton's Historic Districts. The Commission unanimously approved the marker application for 481 Main Street. BM will refer the application to the HDC for approval and issuance of a certificate of appropriateness. The Commission also authorized BM to sign and issue an order form for the 481 Main Street plaque once the HDC approves that application.
3. BD then updated the Commission on the status of the MHC inventory form updates being prepared by Diane Sergeij. BD coordinated with Bill Klauer to finalize the list of remaining properties to be updated, and has communicated the same to Diane Sergeij. In addition, BD received and is reviewing the next set of completed updates.
4. Next, KCH updated the Commission on the status of the efforts to obtain funding and support for the preservation of the Asa Parlin House (17 Woodbury Lane). The Commission and HDC jointly presented to the Community Preservation Committee the new, open design for renovating the house, and the design and renovation plan were well received. VB recommended that the next presentation focus more on the history of the building and the historical contribution that will come from preserving it.
5. The Commission then turned to discussing the proposed designs for the new South Acton Train Station. The Commission reviewed recent correspondence among the Federal Transit Authority (FTA), the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee (SATSAC) and the HDC. The Commission unanimously voted to support the appointment of the SATSAC and HDC as consulting parties for the train station design. In addition, the Commission unanimously voted to send a letter to the FTA expressing that support, and

suggesting that the Commission will coordinate its input on the train station design with the HDC, in order to consolidate comments relating to impacts on historic resources. BM will draft the letter.

6. KCH drew the Commission's attention to recent communications relating to the Acton 2020 plans. The Commission agreed to review the questions posed by the Acton 2020 committee and be prepared to discuss them at the next Commission meeting in February.
7. Discussion next turned to the redevelopment of the old Towne School building. KCH noted the recent communications from the redeveloper, requesting another letter of support from the Commission, similar to the one issued in 2009. The Commission unanimously agreed to issue another support letter, and KCH will draft and send the letter.
8. Finally, the Commission discussed other correspondence received and miscellaneous matters:
  - a. The MHC is accepting nominations for the 2011 preservation awards, and the Commission discussed the Trail Through Time as a worthy applicant/recipient. JC will contact Linda McElroy to discuss how she feels about a nomination for the Trail.
  - b. KCH will call Terra Freidreichs to discuss an update to the Annual Report.
  - c. BM will confer with Mark Hald regarding possible updates to the Commission's website, including the addition of pictures to the historic marker program materials.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Brad Maxwell, clerk*

Cc: Town Clerk  
Town Manager  
Town Library  
Historic District Commission