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ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2011
7:30 p.m., Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, Rm. 106E

AHC Members Present: Kimberley Connors-Hughes, chair (KCH), Victoria Beyer (VB), Jim Chiarelli (JC), Brad Maxwell (BM); Dave Clough (DC) also attended as the HC representative and liaison to the Board of Selectmen

1. KCH called the meeting to order and commenced discussion with the Acton 2020 Report. KCH already conveyed certain comments on the draft. BM will collect comments on Chapter 4 of the Report (Cultural and Historic Resources) and consolidate for approval at the Commission's July meeting.
2. Next discussed was the Trail Through Time, and Eagle Scout candidate William Long's planned staircase project at the Wheeler house site. JC discussed the basic project details with Ed Bell of the Massachusetts Historical Commission who informally indicated that the staircase project could proceed. JC will check with Linda McElroy as to the status of the project.
3. The Commission turned its discussion to preparation of an inventory form for the Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT). KCH noted that she, Bill Klauer and Anne Forbes (AF) walked and documented the Caouette-Simeone site where it will intersect with the ARRT for purposes of starting the inventory form. AF is confirming which form should be used, and the Commission plans to submit the form within 4-6 weeks. DC noted that he has heard the Trail is on schedule for completion within the next 4-9 years.
4. Next, the Commission discussed recent updates on preservation and reuse of the Asa Parlin House. VB noted that the CPC was pleased with the renovation plans after its tour of the house. VB also noted that the award letter is in hand and funds will be available when the Commission receives an invoice.
5. The Commission noted that it needs additional storage space for its files, or else help with scanning the documents for electronic data storage. DC agreed to convey this concern to the Board of Selectmen to see what resources were available.
6. Next followed a discussion of the historic Robbins house foundation. DC related that he has heard discussion of raising a framework for the house and tying into the Morrison Farm. The

Commission noted that this proposal has not yet surfaced with us, but we would be supportive of such a project.

7. BM noted that no new historic plaques applications have arrived, but that at least one new application is expected soon, based on dialogue with the landowner. The Commission discussed the need to publicize the program again. KCH will get in touch with Doug Halley to see whether there are any Board of Health circulars in which we could advertise.
8. Discussion then turned to the Cultural Resource List (CRL) updates being completed by Diane Sergeij (DS). The Commission noted that it needs these updates to be finished to allow future CPA funding requests for other CRL updates/work. The Commission will contact DS to obtain a status update and a hard date for completion.
9. The Commission then considered its limited funding and debated which memberships or organizations are worth continuing for 2011-12, and determined to continue the discussion at the next meeting.
10. In continuing business from the previous meeting, JC reported on the status of the preservation restriction for the Caouette-Simeone (CS) land. JC noted that the Sudbury Valley Trust has been engaged to perform survey work at the CS land. JC will circulate a draft of the restriction when it becomes available, for discussion at the next monthly meeting. The Commission also discussed the proposal and potential solutions for rail trail parking spaces at or in the vicinity of the CS land.
11. Minutes for the Commission's May 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Maxwell, clerk

Cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Town Library
Historic District Commission