

Acton Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2011  
7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Rm. 126

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TOWN CLERK, ACTON

AHC Members Present: Bill Klauer (BK), Victoria Beyer (VB), Bill Dickinson (BD), Brad Maxwell (BM), Jim Chiarelli (JC); also present was David Clough, the Commission's liaison to the Board of Selectmen

1. BK called the meeting to order. Minutes for the Commission's November 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.
2. First, the Commission discussed the status of the scanning project for Cultural Resource List (CRL) updates and existing files. The Commission will determine when the calendar for senior volunteers allows for future availability.
3. The Commission then reviewed and discussed the draft RFQ prepared for the architect design work for the Asa Parlin House at 17 Woodbury Lane. BD will finalize dates for the RFQ with Dean Charter. The Commission and the Historic District Commission (HDC) will supply some names of architects to whom the RFQ may be sent. The Commission also developed a preliminary timeline for reviewing responses to the RFQ and approving an architect.
4. Next, the Commission discussed the contents of its 2011 annual report. BK will draft the report, which will include information regarding the completion of updates to the CRL, efforts to preserve the Asa Parlin House, the historical plaque program, etc.
5. Discussion then turned to the house at 514 Main Street. A private party contacted the Commission to ask about redevelopment options for the property, given its listing on the CRL. BK noted that this property was listed on the CRL because it was included in the original National Register (NR) nomination form for the Acton Center Historic District, but it was not part of the final district nor was it otherwise determined to have particular cultural or historical value.
6. The Commission learned that the house at 79 Robbins Street is subject to foreclosure. BK noted that the house was at one time occupied by Tilley Robbins, but the Commission does not know its current condition. The Commission will write a letter to the foreclosing bank to inform it of the CRL listing and protection.
7. The Commission then determined to fill the vacant Vice-Chair post, and unanimously approved BD for the position.
8. Next discussed was the Community Preservation Act funding approved for surveying and preparation of NR nomination forms for the three historic cemeteries in Acton. BK and VB noted that some portion of the funds must be used by May 2012, and BK will contact the planning department with a status update.
9. Finally, the Commission discussed recent email correspondence with Roland Bartl regarding the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and the six or seven bridges that the trail crosses in Acton, but which

may not meet all the requirements for the rail trail. The Commission will schedule a site walk of the trail to view the bridges.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Brad Maxwell, clerk*

Cc: Town Clerk  
Town Manager  
Town Library  
Historic District Commission