

Acton Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes – April 30, 2014  
7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Rm. 126

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AHC Members Present: Bill Klauer (BK), Bill Dickinson (BD), Victoria Beyer (VB), Brad Maxwell (BM), Katie Green (KG)

Members of the Public: Melissa Chaffee, Jack Norton

1. BK called the meeting to order and opened discussion for citizens' concerns. Melissa Chaffee (MC) asked the Commission about the status of 79 Robbins Street. BK related the Commission's prior actions, which included approval of plans for lifting a portion of the house to replace the foundation. BK also discussed his research, which found that this was not the original 1790's house at this site, but a later house from approximately 1910. MC and BM then discussed the plaque program as a means to convey historical information about the house to neighbors and passers by, as well as the protections against voluntary demolitions in Chapter N of the Town Bylaws. BM will check with Jim Chiarelli about minutes for the Commission's July 2013 meeting. BK noted there are no demolition permits currently scheduled for vote for this house, but the Commission will inform MC if such a permit is pulled.

*[The meeting temporarily adjourned at 8:00 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the demolition permit for 7 Great Road; the meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.]*

2. The Commission then unanimously approved meeting minutes from its March 2014 meeting.
3. Next, BM updated the Commission regarding recent historical plaque program communications. The Commission unanimously approved the plaque applications for 186 School Street and 33 Spruce Street. BM will convey these approvals to the homeowners. The Commission then discussed possible Town buildings that would be suitable for plaques and determined to investigate and order (i) the West Acton Fire Station, (ii) Town Hall, and (iii) the Hearse House at Woodbury Cemetery. The Commission will review the inventory forms for these three buildings and complete the applications and order forms at next month's meeting. BK will email Dean Charter and Steve Ledoux to coordinate the hanging of these signs when they arrive.
4. Finally, the Commission noted that the Historic District Commission will be holding a hearing on May 13, 2014 regarding the Asa Parlin House at 17 Woodbury. KG reiterated that the Board of Selectmen have already settled to plant grass, rather than paving, in place of the Asa Parlin House.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Brad Maxwell, clerk*

cc: Town Clerk  
Town Manager  
Town Library  
Historic District Commission

Acton Historical Commission  
Minutes of Public Hearing for 7 Great Road  
April 30, 2014, 8:00 p.m.  
Acton Town Hall, Rm. 126

AHC Members Present: Bill Klauer (BK), Bill Dickinson (BD), Victoria Beyer (VB), Brad Maxwell (BM), Katie Green (KG)

Members of the Public: Jack Norton (applicant)

1. BK opened the hearing at 8:00 p.m., VB read the public notice and the Commission invited the applicant, Jack Norton (JN), to explain his proposed demolition.
2. JN first described the buildings on his 2 properties (numbers 7 and 9 Great Road), including the historic house at 7 Great Road. The house is now too big for JN and his wife, and they are looking to sell and move near their daughter. JN stated that he has been trying to sell his lots for 2 years. The only buyer that has emerged is his immediate neighbor (#29 Great Road) who wants to combine all the lots and redevelop them for a mixed use of some sort, and who requires that JN deliver the properties without the structures or with approval to remove the structures. JN noted that the property had been listed with Omni Realty for 2 years, and Omni prepared a preliminary sketch of the potential mixed-use redevelopment of the properties.
3. The Commission expressed its desire to set up a walk-through of the property as soon as possible. The parties determined the site visit will occur at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. BK will post notice of the special meeting.

Hearing adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Brad Maxwell, clerk*

cc: Town Clerk  
Town Manager  
Town Library  
Historic District Commission