

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2014
7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Rm. 121

AHC Members Present: Bill Klauer, Chair (BK), Bill Dickinson (BD), Victoria Beyer (VB), and Brad Graham (BG)

1. The Commission reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from its August 13, 2014 meeting, as well as the minutes from its special meeting held on August 27, 2014.
2. The Commission discussed additional information obtained regarding the teardown of the stone wall located at 7 Piper Road, previously discussed during the Commission's meeting on August 13, 2014. The Planning Board had approved the teardown, and the wall will be reassembled following construction at that address.
3. The Commission then discussed the efforts of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to have the North Acton Pencil Factory listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Water District requested that the Board of Selectmen delay any vote to support the MHC's efforts pending review of how listing the site on the National Register would impact the Water District's access to Nashoba Brook. The Board of Selectmen will likely vote on whether to support MHC's efforts at its meeting on September 22, 2014. In addition, BK will be speaking with the Conservation Commission regarding MHC's application, as the North Acton Pencil Factory site is on town conservation land.
4. The Commission then discussed an email received from Robert Schneider of 8 Braebrook Road regarding a broken stone directional post located at the intersection of Great Road and Brook Street. The Commission discussed the history of this and similar posts within the town. The repair and maintenance of these posts is within the purview of the Highway Department. The Commission will bring the issue of the broken post to the attention of the Highway Department.
5. The Commission then considered future preservation goals, including creating an inventory of cellar holes/foundations, other archaeological elements within the town, and the stone directional posts.
6. Finally, the Commission discussed nominating the North Acton Stone Chamber for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The Commission reviewed the assessment of the Stone Chamber drafted by Craig Chartier of Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project, which can be viewed at <http://www.plymoutharch.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/actonstonechamber.pdf>. The Commission considered preparing the application to have the Stone Chamber placed on the National Register, and it was suggested that Anne Forbes and the MHC may be able to assist with the

application process. It was also suggested that the Commission contact the MHC to discuss other possible sites within the town that could be included on the National Register. The Commission voted unanimously to pursue getting the Stone Chamber included on the National Register.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Graham, Clerk

cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Town Library
Historic District Commission