

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2020
7:30 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: Bob Ferrara (BF), Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Bill Dickinson (BD) – (Chair), Dean Charter (DC) - (BoS Liaison), Bill Klauer (BK)

Absent: Jaye Oman (JO), Brad Maxwell (BM)

1. Opening

Chair Bill Dickinson opened the meeting at 8:10 p.m. and read the procedures and agreed-on policies the Town developed for these web-based Zoom meetings.

2. Regular Business

- 1) Approval of July Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the AHC's July 2020, meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 5-0.
- 2) Citizen Concerns: No citizens' concerns.
- 3) Any ZBA/Planning Board projects on the CRL: DH stated that he had reviewed the meeting agendas and hearings of the ZBA and did not recognize any known historic properties for review.
- 4) PAL Associates – CRL to MACRIS Update: JO was again absent so BD will reach out to her about the project status. Anne Forbes' notes to PAL will be sent to them and we will plan to finish the project in September. Any additional discussions were tabled until the September meeting.
- 5) Bridge Project between Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and TTT: BD updated the group on his discussions with Joe Will of the Land Stewardship Committee on the design of the bridge. The Land Stewardship Committee will support this proposal and an application for Community Preservation funds, and Joe and BD will continue to work on this effort together.

- 6) Archaeological By-Law Update: BF sent the current draft around to archaeologists and other groups for input and to tighten up the language. DC stated that we need to put a time limit on the editing and responses and finish the draft. He also felt that if it was reasonable, kept clear and simple, and had specific time limits on the processes that it should pass at Town Meeting in April of 2021. As far as next steps, DC thought that it should be finished by the end of December and proposed as a Town By-Law. Then a 2021/22 CPA grant could be applied for to fund a small pool of archaeological consulting money.
- 7) Demolition Delay Application/Instruction Form: A final draft form approved by Frank Ramsbottom was reviewed for the Building Department to use. This version will continue to be reviewed before it is finalized.
- 8) 53 River Street: DH reviewed the AHC's responses to the PAL cultural resource assessment and other Town proposals. He also reviewed the ongoing email communications and attempts to engage with Selby to work with the AHC regarding the Section 106 process. DC will communicate the AHC's concerns to the Town Manager and work to develop a more collegial working relationship among the parties involved.

3. New/Special Business

- 1) Plaque Requests for 74 Main Street, 93 Harris Street, (previous requests 491 Main Street, 88 Prospect Street, and 292 Central Street: Plaques for 74 Main, 93 Harris, and 292 Main were approved and send to be processed. Waiting to review 292 Central next meeting after review of Area Form by PAL and available info on line. We have not received 88 Prospect Street application (owner needs help with form on website). VB volunteered to take over processing of plaque requests in the future.

4. Consent Items - None

5. Adjournment: At 9:20 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of July 2020