



ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes September 14, 2022, 7:30 pm

Town Hall, Room 126

Present: Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair, Bob Ferrara (BF) joined at 8:45, Bill Klauer (BK), Alissa Nicol (AN) - Clerk, Barb Rhines (BR) - Planning Division, Victoria Beyer (VB) joined at 7:40, Fran Arsenault - Select Board Liaison (FA)

Guests: none

Absent: none

Opening

Chair Bill Dickinson called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

I. Regular Business

1) Review of meeting minutes from August 17th – Meeting minutes from the AHC's August meeting were reviewed; BD moved and BK seconded a motion to approve the minutes; the minutes were approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0.

2) Citizen concerns: Anne Forbes via email asks what follow up is available on the demo delays of 27 Martin and 457 Mass Ave: these should at least be listed on MHC listserv (commissioners note that homes which are not for sale would not be put on MHC listserv)

3) Any ZBA/Planning Board projects on the CRL?: none, 100 Discovery Way is a sensitive area (later on agenda)

4) Bridge project between Rail Trail and TTT at old Davis Road update: no update

5) Archaeological By-Law Update: BR has drafted rules, Kristen Guichard, Planning Director is editing; Attorney General has asked for an extension to review the by-law before approving; BF is reaching out to potential archaeologists to have on contact list for walking sites in the event that the bylaw is triggered by an application

6) 53 River Street Update - we are waiting to hear back from Army Corps of Engineers on MOA, commissioners have all reviewed it; \$1 million grant has been awarded to project

7) Status of converting CRL to MACRIS - link to MACRIS is on “Cultural Resource List” link on AHC page of Town website; additional steps required are to correct inaccuracies on MACRIS and additions of Area Forms still not uploaded; VB notes that cross referencing is critical, esp for blocks of properties where numerical addresses are not currently searchable

8) Demo Delay status: 27 Martin Street - BF via email no update

9) Historical Plaque Requests: 713 Main St, 12 Wheeler Ln, 198 Central St, 189 Main St, 41 Maple St. - BR has updated application that can be sent out to these homeowners, will also create cover letter for approved requests with sign maker address and instructions to send application and payment (HDC must approve applications for signs in historic districts, AHC will forward application/AHC approval); additional request/application for 237 Newtown Road was approved years ago, but sign has not been delivered, we will ask Meg Nichols to make one; BD moves that AHC approve application for plaque at 198 Central St, BK seconds, and motion passes 4-0 unanimously

10) Looking for house plaque manufacturer - review sample commissioners approve design, cost is \$80; BK moves to accept Meg Nichols as new marker manufacturer, BD seconds; motion passes 4-0 unanimously

II. New/Special Business

- 1) Demolition delay status: 457 Massachusetts Ave** - BD opened the hearing, and noted that applicant has not advertised hearing, so requests a continuation; BD moves and BK seconds the hearing be continued to October 12th, motion passes 4-0 unanimously
- 2) Historical Plaque Requests - 140 River Street** application preliminarily reviewed by commissioners, will vote next month
- 3) Former South Acton Fire Station redevelopment plan** - RFP coming out for 3 and 13 School Street (Quimby Square, horse trough is at 50 Audubon Dr, plaque is on the 3 School St building, and BK would like that to remain if building is acquired), AN suggests AHC Chair email Planning to suggest this RFP be posted to MHC listserv
- 4) 100 Discovery Way proposed development** - stone wall, mounds, and points on parcel; this proposed disturbance area is too small for a “moderate sensitivity area” for archaeological by-law to be triggered

III. Consent Items - None

Adjournment

BD moved and BK seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously, 5-0 at 9:13 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- August 17th, 2022 minutes
- Updated Marker Program for Historic Structures memo
- Updated Marker Program for Historic Structures - Owner Application form
- 198 Central St Marker Program for Historic Structures - Owner Application
- 140 River St Marker Program for Historic Structures - Owner Application