



TOWN OF ACTON
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 MEETING
7:30 p.m.
Room 126, Town Hall

Meeting called to order 7:30 pm.

DRB Members in attendance: Holly Ben Joseph (Chair), Peter Darlow (Vice-Chair), David Honn, Kim Montella, Emilie Ying (Planning Board Liaison) and Janet Adachi (Board of Selectmen Liaison)

Guests: Doug Herrick, Amber Klauer, Brewster Conant - members of Acton Historical Society; Kristen Guichard, Planning Department; Peter Berry, Selectman

We met with members of the Acton Historical Society to discuss options for the upgrading of Kelley's corner at the historic Hosmer house. The designers have provided three options for the streetscape – all improvements that reduce the takings and locate the sidewalk and stone retaining wall further away from the Hosmer House.

In addition, we talked about the possibilities of improving access and visibility of Hosmer House and what steps the Society could take to start the process.

The Acton Historic Society plans to engage the Acton Historical Commission to help them engage Mass. Historical Commission to help with the responses they will give to the Town's proposed changes in Kelley's Corner. Therefore the members did not want to commit or agree to anything at this meeting, but rather to have this be a general informational meeting.

Main Points of the Discussion regarding the plans:

- The straight stone wall is preferred.
- They are not sure if any steps are necessary, but like the idea of having some sort of area for a kiosk visible from the street.
- The brick pavement in front of the site is appropriate.
- If the trees will be removed, then the overhead wires should be moved to the opposite side of the street.
- They would like to keep both driveways.

- If a crosswalk in front of Hosmer house could be added, this would greatly facilitate visitor parking in the parking lot of the mall for school buses and overflow crowds. Also currently school kids are crossing the street in this area to get to Dunkin Donuts.

Main Points of the discussion regarding design of the site:

- The Society would like to increase visibility into the site by removing some trees on site and also on the adjacent site (which belongs to the School District)
- They currently have parking for 7-8 cars – would like to increase this
- Adding accessible access is key.
- Some of the functions are Open Houses from April to October
- Other activities include cooking classes and the library
- There is a big meeting room in the library

It was suggested that the Historic Society request funding from CPA funding to hire a landscape architect to make a Site Master Plan that could be used to request CPA funding for Construction Documents and funding of construction of improvements.

There are still several more approval processes that the Town needs to go through before KC road edge improvement construction will start. If all goes according to plan construction would begin in 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Ben-Joseph