

Wayland Historical Commission Meeting Minutes - January 12, 2013

Attendees: Rick Conard, John Dyer, Liz Knourenko, Tonya Largy, Elisa Scola, Gretchen Ryder Sharry
Guests: Andy Irwin, Gretchen Schuler

Chairperson Elisa Scola called the meeting to order.

1. Minutes of the December 10, 2012 meeting were approved as amended.

2. Public Comment: Andy Irwin, Chair of Wayland Conservation Commission

Andy spoke about a proposal to repair the pump house at the earthen dam near Woodridge Road off Rice Road. The pump house was built in the 1800's, and fed water to the Cochituate mills with a water driven pumping system. The Conservation Commission is looking to build an interior structure in order to be able to operate the valve to control the water level when needed. Presently there is no floor or other structures inside the building. The Town of Wayland owns the dam and needs to be able to operate the valve.

WHC asked if the pump station qualifies for or is on the Historic Register; and asked for more information. Andy said that the Conservation Commission has some early photos that were part of an earlier dam report. He will share these with the WHC.

3. Archaeology Update: (Tonya)

Discussion of historical and archaeological study at site of new DPW access road: There are 2 areas of concern (at the ridge and road). Tonya spoke to two archaeologists and received estimates with costs up to \$9,000 to include both parcels. In walking the proposed site with representatives from WHC, Conservation Comm, and the town, Sheila found stone features similar to those found in the Middle School woods. This raises the question of a possible burial site. Part of this area was previously disturbed. Doug Harris, an expert from RI is coming to walk the area with Sheila tomorrow. John asked if the DPW could narrow the cut for the road by using a retaining wall on the left.

The WHC will request an archaeological and ceremonial landscape survey to include ground penetrating radar. Sheila will ask Doug Harris for an estimate.

Discussion of WARG collection inventory: Liz to contact Duncan to ask when he wants to start. She also mentioned that Structures North, who did the bridge study in September, have not been paid. The invoice was submitted at the end of October.

4. Review of Draft of Cultural Resource Policy created by WHC Temporary Policy Committee:

Proposed policy was reviewed and having a step by step flowchart was proposed. WHC will share the policy draft with other relevant town departments and boards for comment. The policy should save time, money, and frustration for projects. Next step: WHC will share with Sarkis Sarkisian, Town Planner.

5. Ceremonial Landscapes Update: (Sheila)

The School Committee voted unanimously to have WHC pursue study of area. Now looking for funding.

6. Railroad Update: (Rick)

The annual brush clearing weekend will be May 4th and 5th to continue with the ongoing maintenance. Question asked about the possibility of using a defoliant. Need to work through the Conservation Commission regarding this. Question regarding handing over the maintenance to the town. Area is not yet clear enough. Rick will contact the Rail Trail group regarding participating in the weekend project.

7. Cemeteries Update and Gravestone Condition Assessment: (Elisa)

Received an estimate of \$10,000-\$15,000 to assess North and South Cemetery repairs. In North Cemetery, there are over 90 tilting stones. Don Ouellette hasn't sent out the monument scope of work for bids yet.

8. CPA Update: (Liz) No meeting since last update. Liz is getting the names of masons.

9. Wayland 375: (John)

The recipe deadline for submission to the Wayland 375 Cookbook has been extended. An insert in the tax bills included a call for volunteers and a request for money. Tonya asked about the date for her talk. She can choose date that is best for her.

10. Historic Homes Update: (Gretchen Schuler)

Gretchen shared copies of letter to the MHC for the Wayland Survey Project (49 properties). Upon finishing and completing the submission, Gretchen will give WHC a copy.

11. New business and other items:

WHC is requesting a \$1000. budget for the new fiscal year to the Fin Comm.

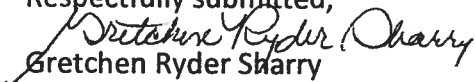
Tonya mentioned a Regis College student from Lexington has applied for a MAS internship. Tonya has her name and could supervise her with organizing the WARG files.

Sheila will bring minutes of the temporary policy sub group meeting to the next WHC meeting for approval.

Next meeting: February 11, 2013

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 PM

Respectfully submitted,


Gretchen Ryder Sharry

Wayland Historical Commission