

Wayland Historical Commission Meeting Minutes - September 9, 2013

Minutes

Attendees: Sheila Carel, Rick Conard, John Dyer, TonyaLargy,Elisa Scola, Gretchen Ryder Sharry

Guests: Mike Lowery, Gretchen Schuler, members of the Wayland Housing Authority

Chairperson Elisa Scola called the meeting to order.

1. Members of the WHA discussed the Cochituate Village Apartments and a proposed sprinkler system. The cost estimate of a sprinkler system is \$500,000 and up. A sprinkler system is not required by HUD, as it is grandfathered in. The Fire Chief suggested possibility of a sprinkler system as there are disabled people living in the building, including the third floor. Question as to eligibility for CPC funds, and if National Register eligible. WHC would need to send request to Mass Historic Commission. The building was built in 1910, brick building, one of the earliest grammar schools, the original façade and windows have been retained. The present building replaced a wooden school built in 1873. Question regarding the possibility of phasing in sprinkler system. The project is a major undertaking and would involve bringing systems up to current code.

It was moved and approved unanimously that the Cochituate Village Apartments be designated as a historic building. This had also been voted on and approved, at the WHC February 11, 2013 meeting. Elisa will send letter requesting eligibility for the National Register.

2. Minutes of the June 2013 and July 2013 meetings were approved, as amended.

3. Public Comment: (Mike Lowery)

The Bd of Public Works voted to be part of Resource Sharing with neighboring towns. This now needs to be approved by the Selectmen. He also asked where to find a list of what places in Wayland are on the Registry of Historic Places, as he hasn't been able to find the Lake Cochituate Gate House listed, and had been informed that it was.

Elisa looked into CPC funds and funds can be used for structures not owned by the town, but would have restrictions.

Mention made that Dick Miller knows the history of the Gate House. Elisa to follow up with the Lake Cochituate Watershed Advisory Committee.

Rick brought up that Andy Irwin came to the WHC a few months back (January,) and spoke about the Rice Rd (Reservoir) Pump House that needed to be repaired (approx. \$75,000), to restore the interior, safety issues. It was the first public water supply in Wayland.

Mike Lowery agreed to be the point person regarding "water system structures." WHC voted to make Mike an associate member of the WHC in this regard.

4. Historic Homes Plaque Program Update: (Elisa)

Two plaques have been approved by WHC and purchased by the home owners. One recipient said that the plaque was too large to display. The plaque size has increased over time, with new sign maker. Previously 19" x 13," now 24" x 16." Lettering is also more prominent.

WHC will discuss the size of the plaques at next meeting. Members to look at both sizes prior to meeting (example of both on Bow Rd). Suggestion made to include the size of the plaque on the application form.

5. Railroad Update: (Rick)

Nothing new to report. NSTAR brush clearing avoided damaging anything, wants to remove tree by Depot, haven't heard anything more regarding this. DPW has been digging west of the Depot, looking for pipe to preserve drainage around the Library.

6. Update of Temporary Policy Committee: (Sheila)

The map work is going. The policy is ready to be approved, but was waiting for the map to be completed. Recommend taking policy to the Bd of Selectmen first, and then talking with other Boards and Departments. Map will be an ongoing project. Temporary Policy Committee to meet again. Elisa and Sheila will bring policy before the Bd of Selectmen

7. Archaeology Update: (Tonya)

US Fish and Wildlife (Shelly Hight Small) (in consultation with Tonya Largy) has agreed to accept return of items that were found on their land, during a 1973 excavation, as part of a BU class project. Fish and Wildlife took over this land in approximately 1963.

Tonya will be doing a "field trip" with a WHS class re:an archaeological dig.

Everything had to be moved out of the lab this summer. The floor replacement was delayed. The walls have new paint and there are new shelves.

A GPR survey took place last weekend, and the archaeology survey is beginning.

8. Wayland 375: (John)

Wayland 375 hosted various activities over the summer. September events will include historic house tours and a talk by Doug Harris. There will be more events throughout the Fall. The next meeting is tomorrow (9/10/13) night.

9. Ceremonial Landscape Update, including progress of survey at DPW site: (Sheila)

Team has been "on the ground" collecting information, have done historical background work, and have talked to Tonya regarding archaeology. They have identified features and are placing them on map. There is concern that DPW site may contain cultural resources that may need protecting.

10. Items for Possible CPA Funds: (Elisa)

Cost for assessment of North and South Cemeteries, \$10,000-12,000 from previous company. Proposal from Barbara Donohue for complete Preservation Management Plan for the Old North Cemetery is more extensive (research, GPR, and report). Total cost \$28,492.80. Possible to break into two projects.

Suggestion of making North Cemetery proposal part of Historic Town Center Study as part of Wayland 375.

Discussion of list of signs for historic designation. Suggestions include: Cochituate Ballfield, Hannah Williams Park, shoe factories, railroad site

GPR study of railroad area

Repair of Old Stone Bridge and Town Bridge. John to talk to Tom Conroy re: possibility of State funds.

11. New Business and other items not identified prior to submission of the agenda:

September 19th 7 PM Open Meeting Law seminar

Next Meeting: 3rd Monday in October (10/21/13)

Meeting adjourned: 10:05PM

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Ryder Sharry

Wayland Historical Commission