

Wayland Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – October 5, 2015

Attendees: Members: Elisa Scola (Chair), Tonya Largy, John Dyer, Sheila Carel, Rick Conard;
Guests: Duane Galbi, Aida Gennis and Lynne Lipcon.

Chair Elisa Scola called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

1. There were no public comments.
2. Stone's Bridge: Elisa spoke to Ben Keefe. The PMBC (Permanent Municipal Building Committee) will take on the bridge as a project if they have to. The Selectmen have assigned the bridge project to the PMBC. PMBC does not have members that have specific knowledge about bridges, but they do have expertise in project management and in dealing with engineers and contractors. Two members of our Commission can serve on the PMBC as nominated by the WHC and appointed by the Selectmen. Tonya Largy and Elisa Scola were nominated to be appointed to the PMBC; seconded by John Dyer and approved by a vote of 5-0. Their involvement on the PMBC will be limited to the bridge project. Elisa stated that the Secretary of the Interior standards are in effect for work on the bridge. Tonya suggested that perhaps Gretchen Schuler would have expertise. Others who are interested may also attend PMBC meetings. The Town solicited Letters of Interest from engineers and contractors who had experience with historic bridges, but all firms that responded indicated that they would subcontract out the historic part of the work, and this response has been unsatisfactory. Elisa has been obtaining information on firms that have direct experience with historic projects.
3. North Cemetery: Tonya said she was very pleased with the historic research and report that Barbara Donohue prepared, and that it went way beyond what she had expected. The report contains some information that is archaeologically sensitive and should be redacted before public release. There was discussion of how to do this; this will be discussed more at another meeting. It is especially important that the historical information be made available, perhaps through the WHC pages on the Town web site. The concern was also expressed that we need to ensure that we maintain a positive working relationship with the DPW, which maintains the cemetery, so we will ask the DPW for feedback on the report. An article on the cemetery study will also be written for the Town Crier. Barbara Donohue's Oct. 4th Archaeology Month talk at North Cemetery (sponsored in conjunction with the Historical Society) was praised. This talk was recorded by Tom Sciacca and could be made available on the Internet.
4. Library: Aida Gennis, Chair of the Library Trustees, and Lynne Lipcon, a member of the Library Trustees, spoke about the Nov. 9 Town Meeting warrant article for funds for Library Planning and Design for a new or expanded Library. They discussed the Library Planning Committee's work. The study must look at at least two sites. Schematic designs and cost estimates will be developed. The current Library building is not in the Historic District. Parking is a major issue. One option could include removing the 1988 library addition and building a new 2-story structure in its place. Another option could involve relocating the Library to another site; if that would be recommended the question was raised about use of the current Library building; the Trustees have responsibility for this building. Based on the

study the Trustees will decide whether to apply for a State grant for construction. Members of the commission urged respect for the history of the original library structure and also the adjacent freight house.

5. Municipal Pad Archaeological Survey: Duncan Richie from PAL came up to do the survey but the Town Center owners would not give permission to access the property to be surveyed. Nevertheless a survey is being done, to be completed by Oct. 16. A “pop-up” event is to be held at the municipal pad site on Oct. 17. Sheila will prepare a poster with photos for this event with a cost not to exceed \$60; this was approved 4-0.
6. Railroad site: Rick said that Sarkis had met with engineers and consultants at Wayland Depot the previous Friday to study a revised routing for the rail trail around the Depot. The focus was on what parking would need to be eliminated if the trail were to avoid the existing tracks and platform. Sarkis wants to have a proposed plan in place before organizing another site visit.
7. Dudley Woods Ceremonial Landscape and Avoidance Map: Sheila has been working on this along with Eva, a contractor from the Tribal Council. An “avoidance map” should be ready soon.
8. WHC membership: We now have two vacancies due to the resignation of Gretchen Ryder Sharry.
9. Minutes of Sept. 9 meeting were approved with minor changes.

Our next meeting was scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9 [this was subsequently changed to Nov. 5].

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Conard