

Wayland Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2017

Attendees: Members: Elisa Scola (Chair), Tonya Largy, John Dyer, Kay Westcott, Ann Gordon, Amanda Ciaccio, Rick Conard; Guests: Sheila Carel.

Chair Elisa Scola called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm in the small hearing room on the second floor of Town Building.

1. There were no public comments.
2. CPA Projects: First High School (Bradford Hall) Preservation Restriction: Elisa said that the CPC now wants a preservation restriction placed on non-public buildings if they receive CPA funds. Discussions are underway between CPC and the Trinitarian Congregational Church regarding the details of such a restriction for Bradford Hall, which would apply to the exterior of the building. The Commission discussed alternatives for the time period of a restriction if windows are replaced with CPA funds. Dudley Woods Trail: Sheila Carel presented draft text and graphics for a series of signs to be placed along the trail to interpret the geologic, indigenous people (Massachusetts tribe), colonial, water supply, Mansion Inn, Prohibition/Great Depression and post-WWII era history of the Dudley Pond and surrounding area. Ten to twelve panels size 2 ft. x 3 ft. are proposed. Members complemented Sheila on her work so far and Sheila invites further comments and suggestions.
3. Proposed Demolition Delay Bylaw: Elisa summarized the public meeting that was held on Jan. 19 and the other meetings and feedback she has had with the Selectmen, Finance Committee and media. A front page article appeared in the Wayland Town Crier on Jan. 26th. She will also meet with the League of Women Voters and write articles for Wayland Patch and Wayland E-News. She will prepare a Frequently Asked Questions handout. Kay Westcott handed out an article on demolition delays in Oregon. There was a discussion of best ways of presenting and describing the proposed bylaw. Sheila offered to write an article on how a DD Bylaw might help save the last remaining barn in Cochituate.
4. Railroad Site and Rail Trail: Rick Conard said that at the Conservation Commission meeting on Jan. 26 Dan Driscoll from the Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) said that they would be joining Eversource for the NOI application, and that DCR is proposing to build a paved rail trail on the Eversource access road when it is completed on the former railroad right of way between Concord Road and the Weston Town Line. Rick presented a draft letter to Mass. Historical Commission to urge them to require Eversource to preserve the cattlepass (underpass for cattle) that is located about 2,000 ft. west of Plain Road. Suggestions were made for revisions to the letter.
5. North Cemetery: The contract for preservation of stone monuments in the Stoney Section of North Cemetery has been sent to Monument Conservation Collaborative for signature. Ann Gordon has offered to help monitor the progress of work once it starts as expected in the Spring. There was discussion of communicating with the DPW cemetery maintenance staff about possible ways to better manage and preserve the cemetery, as outlined in the Preservation Management Plan for North Cemetery prepared by Barbara Donohue in June 2015.

6. Archaeology: Tonya has discussed with Betty Gardescu, Paul's wife, a memorial to honor Paul's many volunteer years with the Wayland Archaeology Group and Historical Commission. The suggestion has been made to install a bench along the Dudley Woods trail to honor the memory of Paul. John Dyer volunteered to discuss with Mike Lowery the details and cost of a bench. Another suggestion was made to place the bench near the Town Building since Paul spent so much time in the Archaeology Lab. Amanda visited Royce Kahler today to introduce herself and meet Royce. Tonya will give a talk on March 4 at Bridgewater State University entitled, "Wayland Uncovered: Archaeological Evidence of Our Pre-Colonial History."
7. 24 School Street Housing Project: There was a discussion of this proposed Chapter 40B housing project and the impact it may have on historic properties. Tonya agreed to draft a letter for Elisa to sign to send to Sarki that he can send to Mass. Housing.
8. January 2017 Meeting Minutes: These will be discussed at our next meeting.
9. New Business: There was an update on school bus parking alternatives. Sheila will continue to monitor developments.

Our next meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Conard