

Wayland Historical Commission
July 18, 2017

Council on Aging, Wayland Town Building

Present: Rick Conard, Kay Westcott, Tonya Largy, Elisa Scola, Ann Gordon
Guest: Mike Lowery, Gretchen Schuler, Mike Patterson (Boy Scout), Dan Williams and Kevin Neprud (Trinitarian Congregational Church)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

North and South Cemetery Update

- Ann Gordon checked on the progress at the North Cemetery, and verified that Monument Conservation has completed the first phase of repair on markers, for which they have invoiced us for \$14,200
- The Commission voted unanimously to pay the invoice
- Suggestion from Mike Lowery to let the DPW know when the conservators are working in the cemetery

Demolition Delay

- Chris Skelly from Mass Historical Commission is willing to meet with us during the day to discuss this

Update on 24 School Street

- A 12-unit development is planned
- Mike Lowery said this 40B has latitude around town guidelines, it is not a settled matter
- Dudley Brook runs nearby, and the proponents are requesting a 50-foot buffer from the stream; Conservation has to decide if that is sufficient
- Gretchen Schuler advised that the WHC send another letter to Selectmen outlining concerns about historical issues, and copy ZBA, Conservation and Board of Health

Castle Gate Pillars

- Mike Lowery: The BPW and DPW are concerned that if we restore the pillars and leave them where they are, they will be compromised by the same forces that have damaged them all along. It might be safer for the pillars and the drivers if they are moved slightly back from the road.
- Mike displayed photos in particular showing how close the pillars are to the road, including a closeup of base stones that have moved slightly
- Mike feels the pillars are in harm's way

- Kay has spoken with people in the neighborhood who say they are not concerned about safety in terms of firetrucks getting down the street, etc.
- Neighbors feel the stones are moving because of water and ice, rather than a vehicle hitting them
- Our concern is that if you move them, they become decorative pillars at the opening of a modern road, rather than harkening back to the carriage road where they first stood
- We want to conserve the pillars, and we feel that moving them compromises the historic character of the site
- Mike: we have professionals in the DPW who know how to design intersections etc. and we should ask for their recommendations and then consider them
- WHC would like to hear about other solutions to consider as well, such as shrubbery that might alert drivers to the corner
- Gretchen: BPW could be the requesting entity to the CPC for the funding, though it's more typical that requests come from some body that has historical concerns

Railroad and Rail Trail Cattle Passes

- Rick met with an engineer from VHB, the engineering firm for Eversource for the Rail Trail, John Wathne from Structures North, and a member of the Weston Historical Commission and a member of the Weston Rail Trail Advisory Committee
- Met to inspect three cattle passes, one in Wayland and two in Weston, and Eversource has requested concrete repairs that the towns would pay for
- John Wathne prepared an estimate of \$26K for Station 71 (Wayland), \$21K for Station 142 (Weston), and \$3K for Station 165 (Weston)
- These cattle passes are strong enough to bear the loading of Eversource vehicles
- But they are in need of repairs: concrete is coming apart underneath, it has nothing to stick to
- Wayland has one cattle pass, Weston has four, and Eversource has agreed to preserve them all as long as the towns pay for the concrete repairs
- Wayland's Cattle pass is near the Lucy Glover land, and Rick is researching its history
- \$26,287 is John Wathne's estimate for Wayland's repairs, plus another estimated \$2K for our share of design services
- DCR will create railings to attach to the concrete on top, and will pay for them
- We don't have money currently to pay for this
- We would have to ask for CPC funds for this work, or go through Town Meeting
- Gretchen feels we can find the money without going to Town Meeting
- Beth Doucette, Town Purchasing Agent, is working on finding funding; Gretchen will talk with her and Sarkis Sarkisian, to see what has been spent and what has been appropriated from the \$250K that was appropriated for the Rail Trail
- If the Town Engineer could help with construction monitoring, that could save money

First High School

- Dan Williams and Kevin Neprud from the Trinitarian Church presented information on the windows for the First High School and showed two samples with slightly different styles
- Double-paned windows have aluminum-clad muntions on the outside and wooden on the inside that is fused to the glass, not clipped in; very high quality Sierra Pacific windows
- Can we request wooden windows on the front eight windows?
 - Front is on the sunny side it would deteriorate faster
 - Wood would require storm windows which would detract
 - Wood would require more upkeep and maintenance
- Gretchen reminds that in order to use CPC money we have to meet the criteria and Secretary of Interior Standards, and non-wood is bending the rules
- We are making compromises with the other widows, e.g., using double-paned, and doing the best we can on the front would help to meet the standards. Aluminum clad on the front is not historically accurate.
- TCC will tell their people that wooden windows are required on the front, they will look for wooden windows from the same supplier or someone else
- They are hoping to do the work in the fall

Archaeology

- Next sifting project will be 9:30am – 1:30pm on Sat. Aug. 26
- Tonya reported that 12 people came to the June sifting event and shared the items that were found there
- Dorey House: Umass Amherst student will work on this with supervision from her department
- Do we have money in the budget to pay for mileage for the student and supervisors?
- WHC can request admin money from CPC to cover this
- Wayland Historical Society received emails from a neighbor near Mahoney's suggesting an archaeological survey at the site before the 40B is built
- If we fund the survey we have more clout
- Gretchen thinks we could fund this from the CPC admin fund and not go to Town Meeting.
- A motion was made to request from the CPC up to \$5,000 for an archaeological survey at the Brookside site
- The motion passes unanimously
- A motion was made to request from the CPC up to \$2,000 for transportation and expenses for the Dorey House project
- The motion passes unanimously

Cochituate Gate House

- DCR is looking for some entity to use/preserve the Gate House
- We should forward information to anyone we think might be interested
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Stones Bridge

- Tonya reported that the State has found an endangered mussel in the stream

Minutes

- Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Gordon