



MASSACHUSETTS 01720

## ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2018  
7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Room 126

AHC Members Present: Victoria Beyer (VB), Doug Herrick (DH), Brad Maxwell (BM), Bill Dickinson (BD) - Chair, Bill Klauer, Katie Green (KG), BoS Liaison

1. BD called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.
2. As part of Citizen's Concerns, BM referenced the activities of the Acton Community Housing Corporation and the Acton Housing Authority. These two agencies have issues and agendas which may be related to the activities of the AHC and we will need to become more involved in monitoring these groups
3. The need to also more closely monitor the activities of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Acton Planning Board was also discussed. VB agreed to more closely monitor the web pages and online alerts from these groups for 40B applications and demolition requests so the AHC can provide timely comments.
4. BM displayed the three historic plaques for the West Acton Firehouse, Town Hall, and the Hearse House in Forest Lawn Cemetery. These will be placed on approved locations on the buildings.
5. At 8:00 pm, BD opened the public hearing on the Demolition Application for 90 and 92 Willow St. with the owners present. BD and the VB gave their impressions of the walk-through of the property on June 28. Both felt that the building at 90 Willow Street was sound, retained much of its original details, and was not a candidate for demolition, although a back addition added later could be removed. The owner currently lives at the adjoining 88 Willow Street and had no drawings or architectural plans of the proposal for demolition and new construction. BD stated that the Commission would work with the owners to lay out acceptable approaches to

redesigning the property. The Commission voted unanimously to impose a demolition delay on 90 and 92 Willow St.

6. BM discussed the changes to the Chapter N Demolition Delay By-Law reviewed by town counsel and other town staff. He also discussed the input from the public forum held on June 21, which was mostly around details and semantics. These additions will be made to the revised document and sent to KG for final review.
7. The latest draft of an RFP was discussed for additional site and building surveys of historic buildings on the Acton Cultural Resource List not found in MACRIS to be funded with 2019 CPC funds. DH will make agreed-on edits and then send the RFP to KG for Town Counsel to review. It will then be sent out in August with a September 15 submission deadline for responding vendors. This will enable the proposal to be finalized and submitted to the CPC before their deadline in November.
8. No new potential AHC commission members volunteered.
9. The discussion of the owner of a potential project at 221-223 Central Street was deferred until the next meeting when Kathy Foley did not show up.
10. A motion to develop a working group to draft a letter from the AHC commenting on the historical issues relating to the development of the 53 River Street was discussed and BD and DH were nominated to create the letter. The motion passed unanimously
11. The June AHC Minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Doug Herrick*

Cc: Town Clerk  
Town Manager  
Historic District Commission