



MASSACHUSETTS 01720

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2018
7:00 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Room 126

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

1. BD called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. The only Citizen Concern expressed was from Anne Forbes who raised the issue of the Jones Tavern external repairs proposal to the CPC. She stated that the CPC is asking applicants to set aside funding for a qualified inspector to certify that any services performed comply with historical requirements. VB, a member of the CPC, said that this was a good idea but in some cases she was in a position to certify the work done. She used the Hosmer House roof repair as an example.
2. BK reported that there were no work applications on the Zoning Board of Appeals web site that involved historic properties on the Cultural Resource List (CRL).
3. DH provided an update on the consolidation of the MACRIS and Acton CRL buildings and sites into a single authoritative listing. It was previously agreed that CRL would be phased out in favor of MACRIS. DH downloaded the MACRIS database for Acton buildings into a spreadsheet and added the CRL listings. It was determined that 46 CRL entries were missing from MACRIS and these would be the priority for applying for CPC funds next year develop building inventory forms for these structures. DH will email a copy of the MACRIS report and listing of the missing 46 CRL buildings to the Commission members and Anne Forbes.
4. The CPC proposal for the town to purchase 62 Harris Street (old brick schoolhouse site) was submitted and a presentation to the CPC is scheduled for January 11. BK and Selby will make that presentation.

5. There was no discussion on the historic plaque program since Brad was absent.
6. On the Forest Cemetery nomination and draft submission, BK updated the group on the CPA proposal to place it on the National Register of Historic Places. He indicated that the survey work is ongoing and he has been researching town vital records for information on three individuals buried there. He will pass this information on to the Public Archaeology Lab (PAL) staff.
7. It was also agreed to that the AHC will address the need for a group to do an archaeological study of and inventory form for 53 River St. This proposal was apparently withdrawn by the CPC. It was felt that the old mill site needs to be surveyed and documented.
8. The AHC reviewed and approved the changes and updates to the Demolition Delay By-Law provided by the lawyers. There were no significant changes to the draft originally proposed by the AHC. KG will set up a meeting with the AHC and the Town Counsel to review the final draft and schedule a public forum for citizen review before getting it on the Warrant for the April Town Meeting.
9. BD suggested that the AHC should address the issue of several board members consistently not showing up at meetings. He will contact the Acton Volunteer Coordinating Committee to get their input on the circumstances under which a board member can be replaced.
10. The December 2017 AHC Minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Herrick

Cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Historic District Commission