



ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2021
7:30 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: Bob Ferrara (BF), Brad Maxwell (BM), Doug Herrick (DH), Bill Dickinson (BD) – (Chair), Bill Klauer (BK), Dean Charter (DC) - (Select Board Liaison)

Absent: Victoria Beyer (VB),

1. Opening

Chair Bill Dickinson opened the meeting at 7:38 p.m. and read the procedures and agreed-on policies the Town developed for these web-based Zoom meetings.

2. Regular Business

- 1) **Approval of December Minutes** – The meeting minutes from the AHC's December 2020, meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 5-0.
- 2) **Citizen Concerns:** Anne Forbes stated that she attended the Agricultural Commission meeting of 1/12 dealing with Morrison Farm. She was concerned that the AC was unclear about the HC's role relative to the Acton Historical Society. BD agreed to send a letter to the AC introducing the HC, its role in building preservation, and its previous involvement with Morrison Farm.
- 3) **Any ZBA/Planning Board projects on the CRL:** DH stated that he had reviewed the meeting agendas and hearings of the ZBA and did not recognize any known historic properties for review.
- 4) **Bridge Project between Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and TTT:** BD reviewed his presentation to the CPC for funding a bridge at this site. The plan consists of 2 stages – design during year 1 and construction year 2. It is expected the CPC will announce the grants in March.
- 5) **Archaeological By-Law Update:** RF updated the group on his CPC presentation for funding the initial costs of archaeological surveys of sites affected by the proposed by-



law. The current draft is being reviewed by Town Counsel.

- 6) **Historic House Plaque Requests Update:** With VB absent, this item was tabled until the next meeting.
- 7) **53 River Street Update:** The chosen vendor for conducting the intensive archaeological survey (Grey & Pape) of the mill site is waiting on an excavation permit from the state before proceeding further.

3. New/Special Business

- 1) **Review of 4 Piper Lane RFP:** This seemed to be a thorough and well-thought-out RFP from the Town for bids on acquiring and moving the historic barn converted to a house. The only feedback the group had was to correct the 2020 deadline and work dates, and to extend the three-week period between awarding the bid and having to remove the building.
- 2) **Town Reports Due 1/30/21:** BD stated that he would turn this in before the deadline.
- 3) **Review of Demolition Delay 183 Main Street:** Neil Gordon of the Discovery Museum reviewed the steps that organization has taken to give away the building at 183 Main Street slated for demolition. A proposal was discussed to waive the remaining demolition restriction given their efforts and the lack of responses to-date. It was voted 5-0 to end the demolition restriction as of May 1, 2021.

4. Consent Items - None

5. **Adjournment:** At 8:54 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of December 2020