

Wayland Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

In the Council on Aging, Wayland Town Building, In Person and on Zoom

Present: Sherry Anne Bryant, Rick Conard, Ann Gordon, Tonya Largy, Katherine Gardner-Westcott, **Absent:** Brad Carver, Amanda Ciaccio
Guest: Abigail Charest, Wayland Town Engineer

K. Gardner-Westcott called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Wayland Town Engineer Abigail Charest described a state grant proposal involving Dudley Pond, and her hope that she will get the Commission's support for her application.

For this municipal vulnerability program, she hopes to evaluate the entire Dudley Pond watershed area, especially existing infrastructure. She would like to inspect and determine the current condition of leaching basins. The Surface Water Quality Commission did some infiltrations in the area, some of which are on private or unknown property. Flooding in the area is getting worse, and an assessment is recommended. Impacts to the quality of the pond come from both Town-owned properties and private residents, and the Town wants to educate property owners about what they can do.

A section of Lakeshore Drive – from 122 to 124 -- has been closed due to erosion. The runoff impacts water quality at the pond. Abigail would like to look at innovative, green solutions such as permeable surface and native plantings rather than asphalt road.

She has the original construction drawings for underground structures and would dig according to those drawings. Commissioners asked that we be notified about digging, and Abigail agreed.

The primary benefits of this proposal would be to manage of the stormwater and identify green ways to mitigate the stormwater issues that are damaging the area, and eventually to spread similar work to other parts of town (e.g., Heard Pond). Abigail suggested that the Commission review and assess the project if it goes forward.

The total amount of the grant is \$200,000, and the Town will match \$20,000 with \$10,000 in cash from the DPW and \$10,000 in in-kind services.

K. Gardner-Westcott thanked Abigail Charest for her presentation and for working with the Commission. T. Largy offered to share with her information about sensitive sites in town.

MOTION: A. Gordon moved and T. Largy seconded that we support the grant application for the watershed program at Dudley Pond described by Abigail Charest. **VOTE:** 5-0 in favor.

Budget

New computer for the lab has been ordered. The speaker for house history – Marian Pierre-Lewis -- is booked for June 6 at the Library and will use the mansard roof house on the corner of Wallace Road and Old Connecticut Path. The Library will record it.

Castlegate Signs

A. Gordon reported on a meeting that she and Amanda Ciaccio had with a graphic designer, Carol Holtz, who designed the interpretive signs on the Cochituate Rail Trail in Natick, to talk about the sign for the Mansion Inn Pillars. She has provided an estimate for designing the one sign, and for creating graphic standards for any signs we might make in the future. We need to decide what the sign's content will be, including photographs. S.A. Bryant reminded us that the house did not begin life as the Mansion Inn, and that identity should not be the only focus. A. Gordon will send to the Commission the draft copy for the sign that currently exists.

Brush Clearing

A reminder that R. Conard will be leading a brush clearing effort at the Depot the weekend of May 4 and 5.

Train Order Signal

Funds were appropriated six years ago at Town Meeting for the train order signal, and R. Conard announced that today the work was finished. A solar powered bulb was installed, but it's not bright enough to generate light at night. This was not in the scope of work for the contractor, so it is a project for another day. The Historic District Commission identified a range of solutions for lighting, and we will work within those guidelines. R. Conard will send thank-you notes to the contractor and to Ben Keefe and Steve Vitello in Facilities.

Meeting Schedules

K. Gardner-Westcott mentioned that we may need or want to change our regular meeting to another day of the week to better accommodate schedules. She asks commissioners to think about other times they are available to meet.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 6, 6:30pm

MOTION: A. Gordon and S.A. Bryant moved and seconded to adjourn. **Vote:** 5-0 in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Gordon