

**Wayland Historical Commission**  
Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2018  
Planning Board Room, Wayland Town Building

**Present:** Elisa Scola, Amanda Ciacchio, Richard Conard, Ann Gordon, Tonya Largy, Kay Gardner-Westcott

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm

**Public Comment**

- There was no public comment

**Executive Session 7:35pm**

- The Commission voted to enter Executive Session to discuss sensitive archaeological issues
- Executive Session ended at 7:58pm

**Cemetery Historical Markers**

- MassDOT is undertaking a pilot effort in western Massachusetts to upgrade cemetery historical markers, such as the one outside the North Cemetery
- All the historical roadside markers in Mass. erected by Massachusetts Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission are listed in a book (<https://archive.org/details/historicalmarker00mass/page/36>)
- The suggestion was made that these signs be put on a rotating clean-up and repair schedule
- Elisa will contact the woman from MassDOT who originally asked about the sign in Wayland

**Minutes**

- The October 2018 minutes were reviewed and approved with changes

**Grants**

- Kay suggested we create a list of projects we are interested in pursuing so we can ask for CPC money
- Having some funding in place will help us pursue grant money for more funding
- Possible projects we would like to fund:
  - A list of homes that would be affected by a Demolition Delay By-Law
  - A cleaning of the cemetery stone markers in the North Cemetery to begin, then the other two cemeteries
  - Repair of earliest graves in the North Cemetery; the slate graves are cracking
    - We should have a fund for regular maintenance on all historic gravestones
  - Creation of a brochure about the three cemeteries, historic significance, trees and birds, wild animals
  - National Historic Registration for Heard Pond because there are lots of sensitive archaeological sites around the Pond
  - Cochituate Village Historic District creation
  - Historic signs
  - Bench for the Rail Trail, or other appropriate locations around town
  - Working with Housing Authority concerning older homes they own that need repair, supporting them in considering repairs that are historically appropriate and asking for CPC money

### **Rail Trail and Depot**

- Rick continues his efforts to get the switch stands at the east end of the freight house inside, so they don't get damaged by snowplows over the winter
- He spoke with Ben Keefe who will talk with Tom Holder
- It will require a forklift or palette jack or other equipment
- Ben reported that the contractor they hope to hire for the Depot, Harper Elm, is busy with the Mellen Law Office
- They will look at the Depot for holes and needed electrical work; repairing the train order signal will be a lower priority
- Rick told Ben that the opportune time to get inside for work and/or storage of tools is after Christmas when the Depot shop is closed
- There is still no date for a ribbon cutting for the Rail Trail
- Extension of the Rail Trail west of Rt. 20 is still under design
- Rick will present a program on Nov. 18 on The Railroad in Wayland at the Wayland Historical Society

### **Archaeology**

#### ***Archaeology Month***

- Between 35-45 people attended the Archaeology Month event on Oct. 20
- Kate Barvick from UMass, who managed the Dorey House dig, gave a good talk with great artifacts on exhibit
- Tonya will get information to Kay about any costs associated with the event

#### ***Mansion Inn Artifacts***

- Amanda is working through the process recommended by NAGPRA
- John Peters, head of Commission on Indian Affairs in Boston, would like to see things wrapped up by spring
- Shira Baston, who is photographing the artifacts, is working on lighting options

#### ***Dudley Woods***

- The bid on the trails has not gone out yet
- If the trees are pulled out this fall, Duncan Ritchie, the archaeologist who will monitor the Dudley Woods project, says he can send a monitor
- The Rec Dept. has not yet decided on the design for the signs

#### ***Gardescu Bench***

- Kay spoke with Ben about benches, and whether or not there is a standard bench used throughout Wayland
- These might become available for memorial tributes people in town could fund
- We could create a list of locations for benches
- Kay shared photos and specs of two benches that can be engraved
- It's not yet clear who would pay for a memorial bench; Kay will continue to pursue this
- Kay will complete the "Feature Permit" form to request permission to place a bench in our preferred location, which is near the gym door in the back of the Town Building
- A cement pad will be needed to place the bench on

**New Business**

- Tonya has written a letter of support and thanks to the Archaeology Services director at University of Massachusetts for their work on the Dorey House dig
- Kay spoke with a number of people on Castlegate Road about the restored pillars, and the majority of people she spoke with liked them

**Next Meetings**

- December 11
- January 8
- February 12
- March 12
- April 9
- May 14
- June 11

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Gordon