

Wayland Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2020
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Wayland Town Building

Present: Katherine Gardner-Westcott, Richard Conard, Ann Gordon, Tonya Largy, Brad Carver

Absent: Elisa Scola, Amanda Ciaccio

Guests: Brian Boggia, Wayland Housing Authority; Mary Antes, Selectboard; Katherine Brenna, Recreation Dept.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

Approve Minutes

The minutes from January's meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. 5-0 in favor.

Cochituate Village Crescent Window

- The Housing Authority received \$3,500 in CPA funding last year to repair the wooden crescent window, and the Housing Authority will match the funding from a grant. The total cost will be just under \$6,000.
- The window has been fixed (not operable) for about ten years.
- The plan is to repair it and make it operable, with sensitivity to the historic nature of the building. When it is operable, the window tilts in.
- Brian Boggia got quotes from contractors, including from FPP Contractors in Watertown, which did the library window repairs.
- FPP proposes to remove the sash and fix the mortise and tenon and stabilize it. He will install an interior storm window "one-light" system that is fixed to the window frame (not removable) and a removable window screen on the exterior.
- Moved and seconded: To approve the work that Brian described, and to request updates as the work proceeds. Approved 5-0.

Loker Field

- Kay spoke with Louise Miller and Katherine Brenna about doing some survey work in work areas that might expand too near to possible ceremonial stones.
- Katherine Brenna confirmed there was money in the budget to include this work.
- Katherine indicated that if the field is approved at Town Meeting, work would not begin until 2021, so there would be time for continued evaluation.
- The walkway and handicapped access to that area have already been surveyed.
- Katherine said the parking lot is smaller than what was proposed in 2013.
- An existing asphalt walkway crosses over the border between Conservation and Rec land. Plan is to move it entirely on Rec land. We are concerned with the work area around places like this that will be under construction.
- Mary Antes announced there will be a forum on Loker Field on Wed. March 18. Someone from WHC should plan to be there.

Railroad and Rail Trail Depot

- A Feb. 3 meeting was held between Beth Doucette and Tom Holder to discuss reimbursement for the brush mower, for the mowing we did before the opening of the rail trail, and to find out if DPW has a brush mower they could use on the site instead of renting one
- Feb. 12, Rick met with Tom Holder and Joe Doucette and another DPW employee
- They visited the Depot site to look at and discuss the site and the task, and Tom indicated that DPW could take on this brush mowing a couple of times a year
- Rick showed them the important artifacts and he gave them the report that shows and describes the features
- DPW will not take on the weeding tasks that have been done by volunteers
- Volunteers could continue to do this chore, along with clearing the side track and other artifacts
- Kay suggested we get the word out soon to students and Scouts about volunteer opportunities
- Rick would like to monitor the work if DPW will tell him when they plan to work there
- Tonya suggested that Rick send a letter to DPW outlining his understanding of the agreement
- Tonya has been exploring with UMass the possibility of the Town doing an excavation of the engine house foundations between the turntable pit and the Depot. This would be several years in the future.

Archaeology

- Tonya says the lab order went in and the materials are here, so they can start re-bagging, and will begin with the Castle Hill material.

Stone's Bridge

- Tonya shared a memo from Paul Brinkman about the issues that need to be addressed and resolved in order to move forward
- The permit from the Army Corps was not applied for, so that needs to be done now. It cannot be waived.
- Paul recommends the bids should not be re-opened until the permit is in hand.
- We also need written authorization from Framingham to work on their arches.
- Mary Antes recommended we contact the River Stewardship Council, specifically Tom Sciacca who is Wayland's representative, and Bill Fadden, who is Framingham's representative.

Cemetery Marker

- Cemetery marker marked "W. Sanborn" was once given to George Lewis, and has been in his daughter's yard; it looks to be a footstone. It was apparently given to him by some of his BU students and his daughter, Pam Sway, would like to return it to its rightful place
- Kay has researched it, and there was no Sanborn in Wayland
- She thinks the stone dates to the early 1800s
- Kay contacted Concord, Lincoln, Weston, Newton, Natick, Sherborn, Framingham, Marlborough, Sudbury to inquire about W. Sanborns in their histories
- Kay and Susan from Sherborn examined the stone together, and Susan did some research and found W. Sanborns in Boston; she went into the city and found a possible matching headstone, and contacted the cemetery caretaker. He believes it is the footstone to an existing grave. Kay is awaiting a written report from Susan so she can confirm the findings, and will ask the Historical Society, which currently has possession of the stone, to release it back to its proper place.

Women's Vote Events

- Kay and Mary Antes described the various events that are being planned in the coming months to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the women's vote. The Library, the Historical Society, the Council on Aging, and the WHC are all planning events.

Next Meetings

Monday, March 9

April 14

May 12

June 9

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Gordon