

Wayland Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2016

Attendees: Members: Elisa Scola (Chair), Tonya Largy, John Dyer, Rick Conard, Guests: Karen Montague, Sherre Greenbaum, Ann Gordon, Mike Lowery

Chair Elisa Scola called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

1. There were no public comments.
2. Rice Road Dam Gatehouse: Sherre Greenbaum, Chair of the Conservation Commission, discussed the condition of the Town-owned gatehouse at the Rice Road dam. It is a small stone building in poor condition with no roof (covered with a tarp) or floor. The Con Com has hired an engineer to write a scope of services for the mechanical components of the gatehouse but not the building. Con Com has funding available to do some work. Historical Commission members asked about the age and history of the building. From the information and photo presented [Wayland A-Z book p. 179] it appears to be a historic building worthy of preservation. Access is through a private residence driveway off of Rice Road. The building is not visible from Rice Road. Sherre offered to have Con Com give a tour to interested members of the Historical Commission. Sherre will determine what a historically-appropriate roof would cost. John Dyer stated and other members agreed that we are supportive of the concept of restoration of the building but that we need more details. Elisa stated that CPA historic preservation funds are more limited now due to the purchase of the Mainstone Farm development rights.
3. Stone's Bridge Update: Elisa said that Structures North has been hired by the Town to develop plans for the bridge restoration. PMBC is in charge of this project. Elisa and Tonya are members of the PMBC but only for the purpose of the bridge project. Mike Lowery said that with the Sudbury River water level so low now, it would be a great time to clean up the debris next to the bridge again. Elisa said that all of our grant money for that purpose has been expended so we have no funding to do that now.
4. North Cemetery Update: Elisa said that Ben Keefe will be sending out a Request for Proposals for monument conservation in the Stoney section of North Cemetery on Thursday.
5. Railroad Site and Rail Trail: Rick received a set of plans from Sarkis Sarkisian for the rail trail between Concord Road and Rte. 20 on the afternoon of Sept. 12. This was the first time he had seen those plans. Some historic railroad artifacts that need to be protected are not shown on the plans. There will be a pre-bid conference for the rail trail (combined with Library drainage work) on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Rick said he planned to attend. The conference will include a site walk-through by engineers for the benefit of prospective contractor bidders and other interested persons. Ellen Berkland, DCR Archaeologist, will also attend. Bids will be opened on Oct. 4. Sarkis wants to have construction start later in October.
6. Archaeology Update: Tonya has been very busy all summer. In June, 8 or 9 55-gallon drums containing tar were removed by the DPW from the Castle Hill Conservation Area. No artifacts were found. Tonya attended meetings on July 19 and Sept. 6 for the Dudley Woods trails project. The Recreation Commission needs more than the \$85,000

appropriated for this project so they will go back to CPC for more funds. Ben Garry will meet with Sheila Carel regarding historical information that she has. Ben Garry is also designing the trails at the former Nike Site. We reviewed a map showing that location; the berm there may be historically significant. The Brookside Chapter 40B housing project (at Mahoney's Garden Center site) was discussed. It was felt that this proposed project is too big for the site. The Pine Brook watershed has not been explored; some sort of archaeology needs to be done in that area. Con Com is also reportedly not happy with the proposed project. If the HC feels this is too big a project for the site, Sarki would like a letter from us. Karen Montague offered to assist us with publicity for our Oct. 15 Archaeology Month talk. Katelin O'Brien in Mary Ann Dinapoli's office does the Town Facebook page and she may be able to offer assistance.

7. WHC Annual Report for 2016: Reviewed and accepted.
8. The draft minutes of the June 22 WHC meeting were reviewed and accepted.
9. New Business: The Sept. 6 letter from Elisa to Sarkis regarding the Carroll School historic barn was reviewed. The idea for formation of a "Friends of North Cemetery" idea was discussed again. John Dyer presented a "Gravestone Girls" flyer from the Town of Dennis as an idea to help get such a group organized. Ann Gordon says she lives near South Cemetery and offered to look at and photograph some of the stones in most need of restoration; there was discussion whether this could be done by the North Cemetery contractors with funding perhaps provided separately by DPW. Mike says he understands the Library study is leaning towards Main St. as a new library site; if we feel the Library should stay where it is we should write another letter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Conard