

Wayland Historical Commission
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2019
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Wayland Town Building

Present: Katherine Gardner-Westcott, Amanda Ciaccio, Richard Conard, Ann Gordon, Tonya Largy, Elisa Scola

Guest: Brud Wright, Vice-Chair of Recreation Commission, for the discussion on the Loker Conservation Area and Dudley Woods

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm

Review Minutes

- The minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections

Loker Conservation Area

- One goal is to clear up confusion about what land has and hasn't been surveyed, and in whose jurisdiction
- Kay had previously confirmed with Asa Foster, Recreation Commission co-chair, that the Recreation area of concern has not been surveyed.
- Kay and Asa had agreed that if the field article passed at Town Meeting, the additional survey would be done and funding would be available
- Katherine Brenna, Recreation Director, had reportedly said they would take the funding out of contingency fund for playing fields
- An earlier misunderstanding about the status of the parking lot was from a map showing that it was partly on Conservation Land. This map was wrong, and it is confirmed now that the parking lot is fully on Recreation Land
- The map (Appendix A) does not include the trailheads
- Page one shows what areas are in Conservation and 48-98 and 49-64B is in Conservation
- Trailheads are most likely on Conservation land
- Brud Wright:
 - Conceptually we want to do the parking lot, improve trailheads, and do the turf field and part of plan was to do some work around invasive species. We think it's appropriate to enhance the trailheads and signage. But any study that needs to be done on trailheads should have to go to Conservation. I think we will need to contain our work to the Recreation land, but need to confirm with Weston and Sampson.
 - We think it would be foolish to build a parking lot and then come back later to build a field, ruining the parking lot
- It is a small portion that still needs to be surveyed, about 5,074 sf or a 10th of an acre in total
- The Board of Selectmen supported the idea of asking CPC for funding for the survey
- Kay: If you come back to TM with a field article again, we want to have the survey and funding for it built into the article
- Since Asa already said there was funding, we'd like to confirm that the survey will be included so when you are ready to move ahead you can
- The area of work for the field is on Rec land, and parking lot is on Rec Land
- Brud Wright:

- I think there were some inaccuracies in Doug Harris' letter, he stated Agent Orange was there, we don't know that that is true
- We paid him \$19,900 and it was unprofessional for him to send a letter to the WHC, referencing our study, when we hired him
- I see Rec as the client, and I don't think that letter should have gone out. Before it was released to the public we should have a conversation about it.
- It was pointed out that the WHC invited the Recreation Commissioners three times to meetings for discussion. Asa Foster did attend one meeting. It was also noted that the Recreation Commission did not inform WHC when the field design was changed.
- Kay noted that Brud does not know for certain that Agent Orange was not produced on the site, so he cannot be certain that Doug Harris' letter was inaccurate. She further noted that Doug Harris was hired by the Recreation Commission in 2013, but is not currently working for them.
- Brud stated that the work area for the proposed (but still unapproved) field would stay within the Recreation parcel;
- Kay indicated that the Town Surveyor thinks it will go outside the Recreation parcel
- Brud invited Kay to go with him to speak with the Town Surveyor to learn what his understanding is about the areas of work.

Dudley Woods

- We would like to work with Tom Holder on signage design for consistent signs in conservation and historical areas throughout Wayland
- Brud Wright said there are three main entrances at Dudley Woods, and the contractor was going to do one main sign
- He said they could hold off until the fall and work together to make sure signage from all different groups is uniform
- Brud will ask Rec Commission to hold off on signage until we can organize a plan for continuity
- Ann will talk with Sarki

Report from the CPC (via Elisa Scola)

- No updates, the CPC has not met recently.

Secretary of Interior Standards

- Rick Conard and Elisa Scola attended a talk on the Secretary of Interior Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.
- Requirement to follow Secretary of Interior standards is written into law that created the CPC
- Standards go back to 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act, that created the National Register
- Rick reviewed some of the history of the standards and the material from the workshop
- The handout from the event is included as Appendix B

Depot

- Rick received a brief email from Steve Vitello. They have received a spec from Harper Elm for the carpentry work
- Steve met with Depot president Linda Hanifin to coordinate the work, possibly over the summer when the Depot is closed
- No update on the train order signal

Rail Trail

- Kay had a question Cattle Pass – one was abandoned and filled in, west of the current cattle pass; it is indicated on a 1914 map Rick has
- News from Weston: At Conant Road, DCR is paying to take out the road and put in a culvert for the trail to go through it
- Then the trail will be continuous from Rte 20 in Wayland to the Waltham-Weston line
- A Wayland resident decided to repaint some mile posts, but did not use the historic style of letters. Rick is trying to get stencils with the historic lettering for him to use.
- Molly Faulkner, president of the Wayland Historical Society, has been arranging with the Library to do an exhibit in Sept. on the Railroad and Rail Trail; Rick has some artifacts he could display but there are no safeguards for exhibits in the Raytheon Room, so that is a concern.

Archaeology

Repatriation of Mansion Inn artifacts

- Tonya and Amanda on June 24 will bring artifacts to Peabody Museum
- Tonya has a transfer form and the Peabody has their own form

Dudley Woods

- May 31 letter from Duncan Ritchie, who oversaw the monitoring of the work there, says they do not recommend additional work; no pre-contact material, they found some post-contact items

Bench

- Kay talked with Joe Doucette, the project has been approved
- The bench has been received
- It will probably be installed this summer

Archaeology Month

- Our event will take place on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2:30 – 4:30pm, at the Library,
- The theme is women in archaeology, and Tonya will talk about Dena Dincauze's work on the Mansion Inn site.
- Library will co-sponsor
- Ann will work with Courtney Michaels at the library on publicity

Eversource Towers

- They did find Native American artifacts in one tower in Wayland and have gone to the company's lab for analysis
- Duncan Ritchie will determine if the site turns out to be important

Louise Miller

- Town Administrator Louise Miller came to see the Archaeology Lab on June 4; Katherine Brenna came along, and Kathleen Buckley, Human Resources Director
- Tonya, Kay and Amanda gave them an overview
- We will need to take inventory at some point as town re-organizes management structure and boards and commissions will need to describe what they own

Archaeology Importance Explanation

- No update

Form for Town Projects

- This form is meant to focus on TOWN OWNED land only
- Suggestions were made on how to include more questions on structures
- Ann will create the next draft for review

State Roving Archivist program

- Kay, Tonya and Jane Sciacca attended an information session about the state Roving Archivist program
- They got a good sense of what a Roving Archivist would give us in terms of helping to get more organized in the lab
- First step is an assessment of the lab and processes/projects
- They give you a structure of what to do and how to do it, and they are available for consultations
- Can apply for grants after the Roving Archivist visits you
- In related news, Kay has asked for a portable hard drive for Arch lab and hasn't heard back

Collins Market

- Some members of the WHC took a tour of Collins Market recently which is for sale
- Mike Lowery has suggested the Town consider buying it for a possible extension of the library

Budget

- Tonya should order archaeology supplies before the end of the fiscal year, June 30

Next Meetings

- No meetings are currently scheduled

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Gordon

HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBER

Eric Dray, Preservation Consultant

Appendix B

www.EricDrayConsulting.com

Top 10 Tips for Historical Commission Members

How to effectively reach appropriate decisions; how to ensure that the *process* by which you reach those decisions is fair; and how to behave and communicate effectively with the public.

1. Follow the Rules of the Game

- Know your bylaws (e.g. Demo Delay, CPC, Planning Board reviews)

2. Know your Jurisdiction

- Stay within your jurisdictional boundaries

3. Treat people the same

- What's good for the goose...

4. Spare the Rod...

- Enforcement builds credibility

5. People have a Right to be Heard

- Public meetings and hearings are governed by the Open Meeting Law
 - See AG site www.mass.gov/ago/government-resources/open-meeting-law/

6. Watch for Conflicts of Interest

- When you have questions, contact:
 - Town Clerk, Town Counsel, and/or
 - State Ethics Commission, (617) 371-9500, ask for Attorney of the Day

7. Beware Ex Parte Contact

- No business at cocktail party

8. Keep a Record

- "While the minutes must include a summary of the discussions on each subject, a transcript is not required." (from AG office Open Meeting Law PDF)

9. Decorum Matters

- Remember what it's like to be on the other side of the table

10. Educate, Educate, Educate

- The more people know about architecture and history, the more they care

Ok, one more...

11. Disclaimer

Remember that all matters with potential legal consequences -- including all the issues covered in this presentation -- should be carefully vetted with your own legal counsel before any action is taken.

Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation

Standard 1. “New wine in an old bottle”

A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

Standard 2. “Keep important features and spaces”

The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

Standard 3. “No fake history”

Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

Standard 4. “Keep significant layers”

Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

Standard 5. “Keep important materials, techniques”

Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

Standard 6. “If can’t preserve, replace-in-kind”

Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

Standard 7. “Clean carefully”

Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

Standard 8. “Rest in peace”

Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

Standard 9. “The same but different”

New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard 10. “Make it reversible”

New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.