

Wayland Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2020
Council on Aging, Wayland Town Building

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

Guests: Brad Carver

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm

Approve Minutes

The minutes from November's meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. 6-0 in favor. The minutes from December's meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. 6-0 in favor.

River's Edge

A recent change in design is increasing the size of the development; we should be aware since this is a culturally sensitive area.

CPC Report

- CPC agreed to recommend funding a portion of ADA-compliance work at the Library, including the second-floor walkway but not elevator work that may be recommended for funding in a future year.
- Funding will include archeological monitoring of the earth moving required to install a ramp at the back door
- The CPC will ask the WHC for review of design changes

Programs

- Kay is in contact with an expert on house genealogy: how to research the history of your house, do a deed search, etc. Kay is discussing dates, etc. with her.

Loker Field

- The article to build a soccer field in the Loker Conservation area will come before Town Meeting in April
- Should we publish Doug Harris' letter again prior to Town Meeting to remind voters about the Native American significance of the area?
- And renew our request for a survey by a certified Native American surveyor if the article should pass?
- Should our Commission take a formal stand?
- Motion from Elisa: The WHC should formally oppose the Article as presented, proposing to build a soccer field at Loker; seconded by Amanda
- Discussion: When this article was proposed last year, we spoke with the Recreation Commission about avoiding ceremonial stones around the edges of the field. Additional survey work would need to be done on areas that have not been adequately evaluated for their cultural significance. Avoiding moving or damaging stones is essential; leaving the surroundings in a natural state is preferable to preserve the spiritual landscape created and still visited by Native Americans.
- Vote: 6-0 in favor of the motion

- Kay will send a letter to the Rec Commission explaining our vote and our concerns
- We will consider whether and how to make our views known to voters

Railroad and Rail Trail Depot

- Rick has no new information from Ben Keefe on the train order signal

Archaeology

- Amanda and Tonya have drafted information for the website about the value and purpose of archaeology
- Wayland is one of the few towns that has archaeology as part of the Historical Commission
- Ann will take the new language and propose a way to integrate it into the existing copy on the website
- Weir Meadow #1: Doug Sacra can come to our March meeting; he expects to have plans by then

Bench

- Amanda continues to try to talk with Beth Doucette about the process for approving purchase and placement of the plaque
- Beth and Louise need to present the request to the Board of Selectmen

Grants

- Amanda and Ann will meet to discuss grant proposals.

New Business

- The historic barn at 70 Moore Road (previously 74 Moore Road) was renovated with materials and designs that were in violation of an agreement between the developer and the Planning Board
- The Planning Board has asked the developer to undo some of the changes
- Motion: We request the Town Planner to add the WHC as a body that will approve the work on the barn at 70 Moore Road: seconded by Tonya: 6-0 in favor
- George Lewis was given a cemetery marker that was found many years ago, and it has remained in his daughter's yard. His daughter, Pam Sway, would like it returned to its proper location. The name on the grave is W. Sanborn, Kay believes early 1800s, possibly a footstone. She will pursue research in Wayland and surrounding towns.

Next Meetings

Our meetings are typically on the second Tuesday of each month. We have moved our start time from 7:30 to 7:00pm.

February 11

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Gordon