



Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2022 AT 6:30 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Chair Chris Hagger, Vice-Chair Diana Warren, Diana Cebra, Steve Greene, Jan Costa, Marjorie Katz, Chris Durall, and Kathryn McGrath

Absent: Taryn Trexler

Others Present: Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry

Mr. Hagger opened the consultation meeting at 6:30 PM. Roll Call was taken: Cebra-present, Hagger-present, Costa-present, Greene-present, Warren-present, Durall-present, McGrath-present, Cebra-present, Katz-present, Trexler-present.

Approval of January 10th, 2022, January 18th, 2022, February 15th, 2022, March 15th, 2022 and April 5th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes, as amended. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously, 6-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

January 18, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the January 18, 2022 minutes, as amended. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously, 6-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

Mr. Hagger stated that the remaining minutes would be approved at the next meeting, in consideration of time.

Sudbury Valley Trustees Barton Barns

Present: Kristin O'Brien, Sudbury Valley Trustees

Ms. O'Brien spoke of the HPR (Historic Preservation Restriction) at the Barton Barns, Sudbury, and mentioned the possibility of transferring the property. She shared slides of the HPR area, including: 3 barns, and the original Sudbury Post Office, which was transferred from another location.

Ms. O'Brien confirmed the SVT has been monitoring the structures on a yearly basis. She detailed the main issue for SVT involved the maintenance of the site, and asked the Commissioners if the Town held

any HPRs, currently. Mr. Hagger responded the Historical Commission (SHC) did not oversee HPRs at this time, but does review historical structures within the Demolition Delay Bylaw. He noted that barns in Sudbury were surveyed.

Mr. Hagger referred to the “Barton Barns HPR Abstract” document. Ms. O’Brien confirmed action would not likely be taken.

Ms. Warren stated the restriction was in perpetuity, and asked about the cost of consultant to perform a yearly assessment at the site. Ms. O’Brien responded \$1,500, and noted that SVT would continue the yearly assessments, and the consultant has been surveying every three to five years.

Mr. Greene asked about enforcement provisions. Ms. O’Brien said enforcement is rather limited, but the emphasis involved landowner maintenance. She added that SVT had a legal defense fund. She noted if a property is being sold, she interacts with the realtors.

Mr. Hagger mentioned if the Commission wanted further involvement, Sudbury legal counsel would likely be necessary; and with Town Meeting coming up next month, timing might be difficult. He noted the topic could be included as a future meeting agenda item.

Historical Commission Member Candidate Discussions

Mr. Hagger stated Ms. Trexler would not be continuing her Commission membership after May, 2022. He noted that the SHC terms of Ms. Cebra and Ms. Katz, would also expire on May 31, 2022.

Ms. Katz

Ms. Katz presented her Application for Appointment, and stated she came to Sudbury, in part, because the architecture and historical aspects of the Town. She mentioned her love of the Hosmer House and its historical features.

Commissioners thanked Ms. Katz for her continued contribution to the Commission, and the Town. Ms. Cebra thanked Ms. Katz, especially with her assistance at the Hosmer House.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission highly recommends Ms. Katz to the Sudbury Historical Commission, and recommends that Town Manager Hayes re-appoint Ms. Katz to another term. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 7-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

Ms. Cebra

Ms. Cebra confirmed she had been a Commissioner for a number of years, and also served on the Sudbury Historical Society, as well. She confirmed her great interest in the Hosmer House.

Commissioners expressed thanks to Ms. Cebra for her dedication, and agreed Ms. Cebra advances the mission of the Commission, and is recognized as the point person for the Hosmer House.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission highly recommends Ms. Cebra to the Sudbury Historical Commission, and recommends that Town Manager Hayes re-appoint Ms. Cebra to another term. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 7-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

Kathryn McGrath

Mr. Hagger explained that Ms. McGrath was applying for the SHC position which was held by Ms. Trexler. Ms. McGrath confirmed her interest in becoming a full-time Commissioner.

Mr. Hagger stated that Ms. McGrath's extensive archeological background and experience is a great asset for the Commission. Commissioners were in agreement.

Ms. Cebra thanked Ms. McGrath for her contribution/preparations at the Hosmer House, as well as her valuable archeological insight.

Mr. Greene stated his appreciation of leadership skills displayed by Ms. McGrath.

Ms. Costa thanked Ms. McGrath for her assistance with the preservation of the Town.

Ms. Warren thanked Ms. McGrath for sharing her expertise with the Town.

Ms. Katz thanked Ms. McGrath, and welcomed the opportunity to work with her.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission highly recommends Ms. McGrath as a full-time Commissioner to the Sudbury Historical Commission, and recommends that Town Manager Hayes appoint Ms. McGrath to the Commission. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 7-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Appointment

Mr. Hagger recommended that Ms. Warren be appointed to the CPC.

Ms. Warren confirmed she was still interested in continued membership on the CPC, and would continue to strongly advocate for historic preservation in Sudbury.

Ms. Warren mentioned CPC projects which have benefited the Town, including the Hosmer House. She detailed that she has served on CPC for seven years.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission appoint Diane Warren as a representative on the Community Preservation Committee. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 7-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

Eversource 106 Review

Mr. Hagger noted the Select Board requested additional information regarding this topic, though the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) appears not to be considering further involvement. Mr.

Hagger opined about ways the Select Board might help advance continued communication. He stressed the goal was for others to help with the negotiation process, and to re-entry discussions with the USACE.

Ms. Warren presented the “Sudbury Historical Commission Request & Background Memo to Select Board,” dated April 19, 2022; with included revisions included Ms. Costa and Ms. Warren.

Mr. Hagger mentioned various aspects of the draft document, including:

Advocacy

Ms. Warren said she and Mr. Hagger provided related comments to the Select Board, who recommended that SHC compose a memo. She stated that a related letter should be sent to the USACE, as well. Mr. Hagger suggested shortening the draft document, and agreed that advocacy be the main topic.

The Commissioners reviewed edits suggested, and included additional language changes/additions. Mr. Hagger suggested that Ms. Warren and Ms. Katz work together to finalize this document for presentation at the April 26, 2022 Select Board meeting.

Additional Background and History

Resident Rebecca Cutting, 381 Maynard Road, cited numerous examples from Section 106 and Appendix 6, and mentioned the depth of proposed excavation. She expressed concern about the idea that USACE would allow piling of rails upon removal, and Diamond consideration, which should be presented to the Select Board. Ms. Cutting stated that she submitted several chat suggestions, as well. Ms. Perry offered to supply those comments to the Commissioners.

Historic Preservation Plan Update

Mr. Hagger requested that Mr. Benton dedicate a meeting between now and sometime in May, to address Historic Preservation Plan project. Ms. Warren concurred with the scheduling of a separate meeting for this topic.

Mr. Benton confirmed he would present an outline of recommendations, and would plan to discuss issues/opportunities at that designated meeting. He stated he would also plan to share survey results - general public assessment, as well as review of municipal properties and policies.

Mr. Hagger suggested the meeting take place on May 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM. Board Members were in agreement.

Ms. Warren left the meeting at 8:51 PM.

Sudbury Granite Markers

Mr. Durall confirmed DPW did maintain the granite markers, but did not necessarily have responsibility for painting them. He stated that DPW Director Dan Nason, recommended contacting the Eagle Scouts or other volunteers to help with painting, etc. Mr. Durall offered to take photographs of each granite post in the Town. Mr. Durall presented a listing of some 38 markers, with 10 missing from the list presented, as sent by Director of Planning & Community Development Adam Duchesneau.

Mr. Durall confirmed most of the markers on the list, were over 100 years old.

Resident Jan Hardenbergh, 7 Tippling Rock Road, stated he had previously researched markers between Sudbury and Framingham, and stated he would be willing to share the related information.

Mr. Hagger stated he and Ms. Cebra were involved in the Landham Road marker, which was relocated. Mr. Greene offered to assist with marker research as well.

Historic House Marker Program

Ms. Katz provided update, and confirmed Tom Couth, the sign maker, was willing to engage in a contract, at a cost of \$195.00 per sign. Ms. Katz confirmed that three homeowners were currently awaiting such markers.

Mr. Hagger felt the Commission should move forward with Tom Couth. Mr. Cebra suggested contacting the Town of Medford, regarding the person who makes the signs in that Town. Ms. Cebra stated she would report to the Commission about that person, who would also provide a complete listing about the house.

Hosmer House including Cleaning Expenditure, Roof Update, Memorial Day

Mr. Hagger noted that installation of larger-sized gutters would be preferred at the Hosmer House, as initially suggested by the Historic Districts Commission. He queried if an Interim Facilities Director was being considered by the Town, in order to move forward with the Hosmer House roofing project.

Ms. Cebra reported a small interior leak in the front room of the Hosmer House. She noted she had interviewed the cleaning company, and that cleaning was scheduled for May 2, before Memorial Day and before the Hope Sudbury meeting on May 5.

Ms. Katz commented that supplying name tags at the open house might be helpful when conducting house tours. She and Ms. Cebra discussed preparations for the upcoming Hosmer open house.

Ms. Cebra mentioned that the Hosmer House open house sign could be put on the Hosmer House yard, with advertising in the Tab and the Town website. She suggested that she and Mr. Hagger conduct a tour with the new Facilities Director.

Ms. Cebra mentioned need for archival boxes and wrap.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission approve up to \$500 for archival box and tissue to come out of the Hosmer Fund. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 7-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

Mass Historical Commission Certified Local Government Program

Mr. Hagger provided update and confirmed that he and Sudbury Historic Districts Commission Chair Fred Taylor, were included on the Select Board May 17, 2022 meeting agenda, regarding the Mass Historical Commission Certified Local Government Application. Mr. Durall offered to help Planning and Community Development Director Adam Duchesneau, with the application process.

Sudbury Eagle Scout Project Update

Ms. Cebra did not have an update at this time.

SHC Finance Reports

Ms. Costa reviewed the general fund account balance, and reported a likely balance of \$2,500.00. She acknowledged that the balance would be better defined at the next SHC meeting.

Mr. Greene suggested funding be allotted to work on the Town gravestone/s. Related discussion took place.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the Sudbury Historical Commission approve the expenditure of up to \$1,500 for cleaning of Hosmer House, which could include rug cleaning. Ms. Katz seconded the motion. It was voted 5-0-1; Greene-abstain, Hagger-aye, Durall-aye, Costa-aye, Cebra-aye, Katz-aye

Mr. Hagger suggested Mr. Greene provide an estimated cost for cleaning of the gravestone/s at the next SHC meeting.

Date for Next Meeting

Mr. Hagger noted that the regularly scheduled meeting would take place on May 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM. He noted that the remote Zoom meetings would be approved through July 15, 2022, if not extended by June, thus; the last SHC Zoom meeting might take place at the July 11, 2022 SHC meeting.

Mr. Hagger stated the moss at the Section House is very bad; and asked if Mr. Greene could notify the facilities department to request maintenance at the Section House. Mr. Greene commented that the moss removal was a paid service.

Mr. Greene offered to make the name tags, as he does for the election workers.

Adjourn

Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cebra seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously 6-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Greene-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.