



Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Chair Chris Hagger, Vice-Chair Diana Warren, Treasurer Jan Costa, Diana Cebra, Chris Durall, Kathryn McGrath, Steve Greene (arrived after roll call was taken)

Absent: Marjorie Katz

Others Present: Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry, Facilities Director

Sandra Duran

Mr. Hagger opened the Sudbury Historical Commission Meeting at 6:00 PM. Roll Call was taken: Hagger-present, Cebra-present, McGrath-present, Durall-present, Warren-present, Costa-present

Approval of Minutes

April 5, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Hagar motioned to approve the April 5, 2022 Minutes of the Sudbury Historical Commission, as edited. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; McGrath-aye, Hagger-aye, Warren-aye, Cebra-aye, Durall-aye, Costa-aye.

Sudbury Facilities Director

Hosmer House

Ms. Duran introduced herself to the Commission, noting that she has a background in construction management, facilities management, hazardous waste management, along with particular interest in historical properties and the management of those properties.

Mr. Hagger reported that the Commission customarily conducts open house events at the Hosmer House, especially around the holidays which involves preparing the House for such events. He stressed that part of preparations for openings would involve the replacement of the roof at the property.

Ms. Cebra mentioned she has been involved in aspects of the Hosmer House for about twelve years; she offered to provide Ms. Duran a tour of the Hosmer House in the near future.

Ms. Cebra stressed that the condition of the roof and storage of artifacts in the attic was a major concern. Ms. Duran agreed to take the tour the next day, on Wednesday.

Mr. Hagger mentioned the need for larger capacity gutters at the Hosmer House in conjunction with the roof replacement, with wood shakes tiling material. He suggested that Ms. Duran might consider meeting with the Sudbury Historic Districts Commission as well.

Discussion ensued about security concerns at the Hosmer House.

Hearse House

Mr. Hagger opined about the condition of the historic windows at the Hearse House.

Discussion regarding the Hearse House took place.

Section Tool House

Ms. Warren reported the Town currently has a lease agreement with the MBTA regarding the Section Tool House. Discussion regarding aspects of the Section Tool House took place.

Sudbury Historical Society - Revolutionary War Cemetery

Present: Ed Kreutz, 325 Maynard Road, Sudbury; Colonel-retired from Sudbury Companies of the Minute Militia; Ellen Neiterman, 8 Read Oak Drive, Sudbury, and Vice-President of the Sudbury Historical Society; Beth Gray-Nix, 226 Pond Street, Natick; Treasurer and Head of Collections and Research for Sudbury Historical Society

Mr. Kreutz provided documentation regarding the history of the Revolutionary War Cemetery and gravesites at the Cemetery.

Ms. Neiterman provided update regarding a listing of those buried in the Revolutionary War Cemetery. She noted the list was originally compiled by the Goodman's Society (precursor to the Sudbury Historical Society) in the 1950s to 1960s. Ms. Neiterman confirmed the existing listing required update, and went on to highlight various records examined by Mr. Kreutz, who found that 106 Revolutionary War soldiers are recorded as being buried at the Cemetery. She stressed that the list of those buried at the Cemetery, would be continually updated.

Mr. Hagger inquired about the number of people buried without headstones. Mr. Kreutz replied there are over 60 unidentified veterans buried at the Cemetery.

Ms. Costa opined about Revolutionary War soldiers being buried in other parts of Town. Mr. Kreutz responded in the affirmative. Ms. Costa stated that a mentioned memorial panel would be a most appropriate way to remember the men who fought in the Revolutionary War.

Ms. Warren mentioned as a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) had an extensive soldier data base and could be included as a resource. She believed this continued research project (including study of below-ground markers) and placement of flags would be more appropriate than a panel listing at the site, in consideration that all names mentioned might not be buried at the particular site.

Ms. Cebra stated the flags are extremely important to highlight how many Sudbury members served in the Revolution.

Ms. Warren stated that the Wayside Chapter of DAR might be interested in joining the research project, and opined that there may be an opportunity for the research project to receive a matching grant from the National DAR Society, as a Historic Preservation Project.

Steven Greene joined the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Section Tool House/Tracks – Eversource Historic Districts Commission Certificate of Appropriateness Application

Ms. Warren stated the Sudbury Planning Department had notified Eversource of the need to apply for a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Sudbury Historic District Commission (SHDC) in order to proceed with the project work along the right-of-way near the Section Tool House (within the boundary of the George Pitts Tavern Historic District). She highlighted a change made by Eversource.

Mr. Hagger reviewed the conditions placed on the Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the SHDC.

Section 106 Review and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Ms. Warren referred to the drafted Mass Historical Commission MOA Agreement, dated July 29, 2022 to USACE; did not deal with all Mass Historical Commission comments.

Ms. Warren highlighted differences between the last two MOAs. She commented on the MOA section dealing with the demolition and replacement options for Bridge 127, and new developments at the Section Tool House.

Mr. Hagger indicated the MOA was closed, according to the USACE, and not open for discussion.

Ms. Costa reiterated the MOA was between USACE, the Mass Historical Commission, Nstar and DCR. Ms. Warren commented that the Sudbury Historical Commission was recognized as a consulting party.

The Commissioners discussed various changes between the two letters.

Ms. McGrath stated a separate letter would help provide the rationale for the changes detailed on the subsequent MOA.

Mr. Hagger suggested sending two separate letters, isolating the new information regarding the Section Tool House would be preferable; as there was no compelling reason for the USACE to reverse their decision based on a single letter.

Ms. Warren motioned to approve the draft letter dated August 18, 2022; with changes discussed during the review of the draft letter to be sent as one letter. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. It was on motion 5-2; Hagger-no, Durall-aye, Greene-aye, McGrath-no, Costa-aye, Warren-aye, Cebra-aye.

Sudbury Finance Reports

Ms. Costa stated that the FY 22 carryover was missing from the General Fund Report.

Ms. Costa stated the CPA application deadline was October 7, 2022.

Sudbury Demolition Delay Bylaw

Mr. Hagger reported that the Commission is awaiting related comments from Town Counsel.

Historic Preservation Plan Update/discussion

Mr. Hagger reminded the Commissioners that submission of public comments closes on August 23, 2022.

Ms. Warren acknowledged that the Preservation Consultant Peter Benton, must submit Historic Context for the Historic Preservation Plan.

Mass Historical Commission Certified Local Government Program

Mr. Hagger reported completed Certified Local Government Program Application had been circulated to the Commission. He thanked Mr. Durall for his work on the application.

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the completed Certified Local Government Program Application. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Hagger-aye, Durall-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Costa-aye, McGrath-aye, Cebra-aye.

Eagle Scout Hosmer House Website Update

Present: Eagle Scout Asher Leavitt

Mr. Leavitt highlighted the updates to the Hosmer House Webpage, including website walkthrough and desired feedback, including the pictorial booklet as displayed on the home page.

Mr. Greene inquired if the Hosmer House paintings would be identified in some way on the website. Mr. Leavitt hoped to put the paintings on a share file, with subtitle/s. Mr. Greene suggested including something like a label which would be instituted as a credentialed credit to the Historical Commission – the Hosmer House.

Ms. McGrath stated that a copywrite policy concerning the Hosmer paintings, needed to be established.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Leavitt for his efforts on creating the content for the website.

Public Comment

Resident Kevin Lahaise, 195 Horse Pond Road, thanked Eagle Scout Asher Leavitt for the great work he completed on the Hosmer House project. He stated that he had concerns about the Historic Preservation Plan and the Commission's desire to accelerate the timeline when many residents are out of Town on summer vacation, and the possible effect on the Town and the Master Plan.

Mr. Hagger acknowledged the comments submitted by Mr. Lahaise in writing.

Hosmer House

Ms. Cebra reported the house will be open to the public this Sunday, August 21st from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. She opined about the need to plan now for the openings during the Holiday Season.

Historic House Marker Program

Mr. Greene reported a new historic marker was installed at the Hearse House.

Sudbury Granite Markers

Mr. Durall had no updates.

Railroad Section House Roof

Mr. Hagger confirmed that he would update Ms. Duran about aspects regarding the roof at the Section House.

Cemetery Stone Restoration/Return of Cemetery Stones to Natick

Mr. Greene commented that a vote would be needed for the resolution of the Maynard Wheeler Stone.

Mr. Hagger suggested a joint site visit with the Historical Society at the Revolutionary War Cemetery.

Date for Next Meeting

Mr. Hagger announced the next scheduled meeting is set for August 30, 2022 or September 8, 2022 regarding the Historic Preservation Plan; and September 20, 2022 for the scheduled meeting.

Ms. Costa left the meeting at approximately 9:50 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn the Sudbury Historical Commission Meeting. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Durall-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Greene-aye, Warren-aye, Cebra-aye

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 PM.