



Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING

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

Others Present: Historic Preservation Consultant Peter Benton; Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry

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

Approval of Minutes

June 7, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the June 7, 2022 Sudbury Historical Commission Minutes, as edited. Ms. Cebra seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Cebra-aye, Hagger-aye, Greene-aye, Costa-aye, McGrath-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) Request for Support for Community Preservation Committee Project

Brandon Parker - Facilities Maintenance Manager for Sudbury Valley Trustees

Mr. Parker stated the SVT headquarters are located on the Wolbach Farm in Sudbury. He detailed the SVT Trustees were seeking support for their CPC application to help with the funding of maintenance projects on the Farm, such as rebuilding retaining walls.

Mr. Parker detailed the history of the Founder's Garden which was planned by the Olmsted Brothers in the 1930's.

Ms. Warren, former member of the CPC, detailed the CPC application process and the related funding cycle. She also highlighted the process to determine if the garden is historic in nature and eligible for CPC funding. She suggested the SVT hire a preservation consultant to perform a survey on the garden, and to determine the garden's historical significance.

Ms. Costa commented about aspects of the gardens included on MACRIS. Ms. Warren clarified the MACRIS listing including mention of additional areas of the Farm have not been officially surveyed.

Resident Robert May, 98 Maynard Farm Road, stated that related plans and photos of the Farm dating back to the 1930's have been found in the National Park Archives.

Mr. Greene asked if volunteers help keep up the horticultural aspects of the gardens. Mr. Parker responded affirmatively.

Sudbury Historical Society – Revolutionary War Cemetery

Resident and Vice-President of the Sudbury Historical Society Elin Neiterman, 8 Red Oak Drive, and Beth Gray-Nix, 226 Pond Street, Natick, MA and Head of Collections and Research for the Sudbury Historical Society.

Ms. Neiterman reported that new information is discovered almost daily, regarding Revolutionary War soldiers who are buried in unmarked graves.

Mr. Hagger reported after the site visit to the Revolutionary War Cemetery with members of the Sudbury Historical Society, the Commissioners voted to modify the top of the existing kiosk; to include updates and corrected information. He reported the other issue considered was the placement of additional flags to honor the Veterans.

Ms. Warren inquired about the source of the information, when confirming where an individual is buried in the Cemetery. Ms. Neiterman responded the information packet provided to the Commission, includes a list of sources provided by Mr. Kreutz.

Commissioners and Members of Sudbury Historical Society discussed the length of time the flags are to be left on display at the Revolutionary War Cemetery.

Mr. Hagger suggested the Commission determine how much money they have available to redesign the Kiosk, and develop new graphics. He suggested the Historical Society return to the SHC meeting on October 18, 2022.

Revolutionary War Cemetery Sign

Mr. Greene confirmed a new sign for the Revolutionary War Cemetery was needed.

Ms. Warren mentioned the existing sign was installed before the kiosk was installed.

Mr. Hagger suggested determining the funds available, so a decision could be made regarding a new sign and post.

Mass Historical Commission Certified Local Government Program

Mr. Hagger reported the Certified Local Government Program application was voted and approved by the Select Board at their September 13, 2022 meeting.

Mr. Durall stated Jen Doherty from Mass Historical Commission indicated that the Application should be enhanced before it is sent to the National Parks Service. Mr. Hagger suggested that materials from the Historic Preservation Plan, might help provide additional information.

Potential Projects needing Community Preservation Act Funds/Potential Application to Community Preservation Committee

Ms. Warren stated the Historical Preservation Consultant must submit an invoice for services performed, no later than September 30, 2022.

Discussion among the Commissioners took place regarding the logistics associated with the CPC application process.

Commissioners reviewed the application for the Indigenous Cultural Landscape Study.

Ms. Warren highlighted aspects of the process when applying to the Mass Historical Commission for matching grants. Mr. Hagger confirmed there was still time to submit an application to Mass Historical Commission for matching funds.

Ms. Warren motioned the Sudbury Historical Commission approve the CPC Application for an Indigenous Cultural Landscape Study, as drafted by Kathryn McGrath, requesting funding of \$35,000; to allow Ms. McGrath to make additional edits to the application, as needed. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Warren-aye, Costa-aye, Cebra-aye, Katz-aye, Greene-aye.

Mr. Hagger motioned the Sudbury Historical Commission approve the CPC application funding to complete additional inventories, with costs to be determined later, and to allow Diana Warren to make additional edits. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Greene-aye, Cebra-aye, McGrath-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

Mr. Hagger motioned the Sudbury Historical Commission approve the CPC application funding for the Hosmer House Structures Report/Cultural Landscape Building and Collection Study, and to allow Diana Cebra to make additional edits, with a cost to be determined at the October meeting of the SHC. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Greene-aye, Cebra-aye, McGrath-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

Historic Preservation Plan

Ms. Warren provided an updated status of the Plan.

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the Historic Preservation Plan, with review of the document for typos and minor editorial edits, by Diana Warren, Steven Greene, and Chris Hagger. Ms. Cebra seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Greene-aye, Cebra-aye, McGrath-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye

Hosmer House

Mr. Hagger stated the Commission had not received related input/comments from Town Counsel to date.

Ms. Cebra stated the Commission might consider scheduling a Hosmer House visit, considering the House has been closed to the general public for two years. She recapped upcoming events to take place at the Hosmer House.

Ms. Costa stated Dynamic Janitorial Service agreed to provide the cleaning services at the Hosmer House. She stated a contract was required, to include the scope of work and cost for the work performed. Ms. Cebra stated that such cleaning needed to be done before the House became open to the public.

Maynard Wheeler Gravestone

Mr. Greene stated the Commission needed to decide if the Maynard Wheeler Gravestone will be placed back in the cemetery, or mounted in the Hearse House. Commissioners decided to consider this matter at the upcoming SHC meeting.

Return of Cemetery Stones to Natick

Mr. Greene stated there was no urgency regarding this item, and suggested the topic be considered at the next SHC meeting.

Rail Road Section House

Mr. Greene stated the Section House roof was some 25 years old, and needs to be replaced. Mr. Hagger observed that if the roof replacement was to be considered a repair, Town Facilities would be responsible; but a historic restoration might require CPC funding.

Support Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee

Mr. Greene stated the initial purpose of the Advisory Committee Report included adding a more complete list of artifacts on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. He indicated his preference that Sudbury purchase the Little Station and turn it into a train museum, which would present the transportation history of Sudbury.

Eagle Scott Hosmer House Website update

Ms. Cebra detailed that she and Mr. Duvall would be meeting with Eagle Scout Asher Leavitt, on Sunday. Ms. Costa stated she would provide chosen edits to be added to the Hosmer House Website.

Sudbury Historical Commission Finance Reports

Ms. Costa stated she had sent out the monthly report, prior to the meeting.

Date for Next Meeting

Mr. Hagger stated the next SHC meeting was scheduled for October 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn the SHC meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Costa. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Greene-aye, Cebra-aye, Warren-aye, Katz-aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 PM.