



Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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MINUTES

April 18, 2023 AT 6:30 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Chair Chris Hagger, Diana Cebra, Chris Durall, Kathryn McGrath, Jan Costa, Marjorie Katz, Bill Andreas

Absent: Diana Warren

Others Present: Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry, Community Preservation Coordinator Ryan Poteat

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

Public Hearing – 196 North Road under the Sudbury Demolition Delay Bylaw

Present: Ms. Mary Brennan

Mr. Hagger provided application background.

Mr. Hagger stated the Building Inspector had asked the Brennan's for more detailed plans, in order to determine if the structure falls under partial demolition status.

Ms. Brennan inquired about the latest correspondence from the Building Inspector.

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the deadline extension for submission of the demolition plan for 196 North Road for an additional 60 days. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Mr. Hagger motioned to continue the public hearing for 196 North Road under the Sudbury Demolition Bylaw for an additional 60 days. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

328 Hudson Road under the Sudbury Demolition Delay Bylaw.

Present: Victor Nascimento, Owner

Mr. Hagger summarized aspects of the application.

Mr. Hagger stated he verified the outbuildings and garage at the site, were constructed between 1934 and 1940. He reported the buildings were built with decorative concrete block, promoted by the Portland Cement Association, and Sears Roebuck, as kits.

Ms. Cebra stated the original hardware and hinges are still intact and the building is very unique.

Mr. Andreas stated the garage was built to house a Model T car, and is not practical for modern use. He indicated that the only car that might fit into the garage today would be something no bigger than a Mini Cooper.

Mr. Durrell inquired if there might be any preservation groups trying to save this type of building. Mr. Andreas replied there is such a group in Pasadena, California.

Mr. Nascimento stated there were gaps in the back wall, which was caused by a fallen tree.

Mr. Hagger motioned the Sudbury Historic Commission has determined the outbuildings/garage at 328 Hudson Road are historically significant due to the history, architecture, method of building construction, and building material used. Ms. Cebra seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Approval of February 21, 2023, and March 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hagger stated the 3/21/23 minutes would be reviewed at next month's SHC meeting.

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the minutes of 2/21/23, as amended. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0-1; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-abstain, Cebra-aye.

Granite Marker – Union Avenue/Concord Road Intersection

Mr. Hagger stated the Town would be relocating several granite roadside markers under the Complete Streets Program. Town Engineer Bill O'Rourke of the DPW suggested a site visit be conducted, once a contractor has been selected.

Mr. Hagger acknowledged that several of the markers had sustained some damage. Mr. Andreas inquired about the date the stone was placed at the intersection. Mr. Durall confirmed that research was needed in order to determine the dates of the stones in question.

Sudbury-Hudson Transmission Reliability Project including Retention of Portions of Bridges 127/128 and Cattle Pass

Mr. Hagger reported Eversource stated in an e-mailed the SHC they would not be able to save any of the steel girders from the bridge 127.

Mr. Hagger reported the granite blocks removed during the reconstruction of Bridge 128, will be made available to the Town. Mr. Hagger reported a site visit with members of SHC will take place at Bridge 128 with Conservation Coordinator Lorie Capone, DCR representatives, Eversource contractors and consultants; on May 17th at 10:00 AM, to consider the placement of the blocks.

Discussion developed among Commissioners regarding the placement of the granite blocks.

Mr. Hagger reported the Commission received a letter from Commonwealth Heritage, Eversource's consultant, which detailed the discovery of a cattle pass during construction.

Commissioners reviewed pictures of the cattle pass, as taken by Commonwealth Heritage consultants.

Mr. Hagger recommended that mitigation conditioning, should include construction around the cattle pass, similar to what was done at the Mass Central Rail Trail in Weston with two cattle passes there.

Ms. Cebra opined that Sudbury has a rich agricultural history; therefore, it would be important to see how the cattle crossed under the train tracks.

Mr. Andreas stated when Route 2 was built, there was a requirement to provide an underpass for wildlife.

Mr. Hagger motioned to encourage Eversource and DCR to minimize the impact on the cow passage, as referenced in the Sudbury-Hudson Post Review Discovery #1 Memorandum; and to reroute the bike trail and transmission line around the cow passage, as a form of mitigation, similar to the treatment of the cow passages in Weston on the Mass Central Rail Trail. Ms. Katz seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Invitation to Consult on Mass Central Rail Trail – Interpretive Signage Development

Ms. McGrath reported that the first meeting regarding the Mass Central Rail Trail was to be announced, and she had received materials regarding interpretive signage do's and don'ts.

Railroad Section House

Mr. Hagger reported that he had provided information to the new Town Manager regarding the Railroad Section Tool House. He stated Town Counsel knows MBTA Counsel, and is willing to broach the subject of the disposition of the Railroad Section Tool House.

Mr. Hagger stated he contacted Facilities Director Sandra Duran, to consider treating the moss on the roof of the Railroad Section Tool House.

Mr. Hagger reported Ms. Duran has sent out requests regarding the development of specification for the wood roof and gutter repair at the Hosmer House. Ms. Duran indicated that access to the Tool House was difficult. Ms. Cebra commented that the Tool House is easily accessible.

Historic Commission Applications approved by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

Related Town Meeting procedures/processes were reviewed.

Ms. Costa updated the Commissioners on the CPC request from Sudbury TV, regarding historic information transferred into digital formatting by Sudbury TV.

Mr. Andreas commented that such cultural resources needed to be transferred to a more stable medium, before the life expectancy is reached.

Ms. Cebra asked if Sudbury TV has sought funding from a different source.

Historical Commission Recommendation for Member Renewal

Mr. Hagger motioned to recommend the reappointment of Ms. Costa, to a three-year term. Ms. Katz seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Ms. Costa thanked the commission and stated that it is an honor to continue to serve.

Hosmer House including Plow Donation, Hosmer House Facility Needs, Event Volunteers and Open Houses

Ms. Cebra reported the Eagle Scout project, with the creation of the Hosmer House Website, has been completed.

Ms. Cebra reported the windows stored in the shed were removed from a different house on Concord Road.

Ms. Cebra stated that Sudbury resident Rebecca Cutting, has a plow which belonged to the Hosmer's. Ms. Cebra confirmed that Ms. Cutting is willing to donate the plow to the Hosmer House.

Mr. Hagger motioned to accept the donation of a plow from Rebecca Cutting. Ms. Katz seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Ms. Cebra provided details regarding the open house held at the Hosmer House and the program about colonial slavery.

Ms. Cebra highlighted the past donations of two different paintings, which are in need of restoration.

Mr. Hagger motioned to authorize the purchase of roller, light -filtering shades for the Hosmer House, not to exceed \$1,000.00. Ms. Cebra seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Ms. Cebra stated the next open house at the Hosmer House is scheduled for May 13, 2023.

Ms. McGrath inquired if the appraisal tags attached to different artifacts in the Hosmer House, could be transferred to another area of the mentioned artifacts.

Ms. Costa noted the contract with the Hosmer House cleaning vendor -requires re-negotiation by mutual agreement via an amendment in advance of the start of each fiscal year for the remaining two fiscal years of the contract term.

Possible Land Donation to the Town

Mr. Hagger reported a request expressing interest in five parcels of land being donated to the Town, was sent to several Town boards. Mr. Andreas reported one of the lots is the second most historic site in Sudbury, and it has been nominated to become a historic battlefield site.

Mr. Hagger motioned the Sudbury Historic Commission has expressed an interest in the Town receiving a donation of 5 lots of land, because there is a significant historic interest. Ms. Costa

seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, McGrath-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye, Cebra-aye.

Historic Commission Finance Reports and Current Year Funding Needs

Ms. Costa stated there is currently an estimated \$1,700.00 remaining in the budget for this fiscal year.

Recommended Archeology

Ms. McGrath reported that she now has access to the MACRIS System archeology maps.

Historic House Marker Program

There were no updates on the Program at this time.

Date for Next Meeting

Mr. Hagger stated a goal-setting meeting might be needed, and the next meeting is scheduled for May 16.

Adjourn

Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn the SHC Meeting. Ms. Katz seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Cebra-aye, Andreas-aye, McGrath-aye, Durall-aye, Katz-aye

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.