



Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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SUDBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION REMOTE TELECONFERENCING MEETING

MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024

Members: Chair Chris Hagger, Vice-Chair Michael Wallace, Treasurer Chris Durall, William Andrea, Jan Costa, Margie Katz

Others Present: Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry

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

250 Raymond Road under the Demo Delay Bylaw

Present: Brian Donnelly and Emily Donnelly, Owners

Mr. Hagger provided application update. The gambrel-style home was built in the 1920s and was a mail order/catalogue home.

Mr. Hagger highlighted features of the house listed on MACRIS and mentioned that the home might qualify as a Hodgson House. Mr. Andreas explained that Hodgson Houses were unheated cabins.

Mr. Wallace inquired if any of the original house would be affected by the proposed addition. Mr. Donnelly replied the garage would be affected by the addition.

Ms. Costa commented that the owner indicated that the garage was built in 1979. Mr. Hagger disputed the date of construction based on the original windows in the garage.

Mr. Hagger stated the SHC conducted a site visit at 250 Raymond Road on September 20, 2024.

Mr. Hagger motioned that the application for 250 Raymond Road received by the SHC for a partial demolition covers a portion thereof of the structure which the SHC determined is not historically significant and the building inspector may issue a building permit. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-aye, Durall-aye, Andreas-aye

286 Old Lancaster Road under the Demo Delay Bylaw

Present: Lisa Vitale-Barth, Owner

Mr. Hagger confirmed that the SHC needed to schedule a home inspection in consideration of the demo delay bylaw.

The site visit was scheduled for Monday, October 28, at 1:00 PM.

CPC Application Updates

Ms. Costa stated there were five (5) CPC annual reports requiring completion. Regarding the Indigenous Cultural Landscape report, the Commission should decide how to position this report as there was no FY 2024 consultant response to the RFP and the project did not move forward.

Hosmer House Collections Study project status update: Mr. Hagger stated the breakdown of the cost estimates from the consultant should be added to the application. Commission members agreed.

Hosmer House including basement mold spores' results, Open Houses and Docent scheduling

Mr. Hagger stated that recent test results documented the decrease in mold-spore count in the basement of the Hosmer House. He concluded the test report should be published on the SHC web site. Mr. Wallace agreed, and he suggested a hard copy made available at the Goodnow Library.

Mr. Hagger read the following statement from Ms. Duran, Sudbury Combined Facilities Director:

“Speaking for the Town of Sudbury and the desire to have the Town issue a blanket statement on the health effects of mold. Unfortunately, the mold is so individualized based on a person’s sensitivity that we, the Town, cannot generalize the health effects of the environment for individuals. Mold is naturally occurring, and the airborne mold spores and active mold growth grown can change at anytime, as noted in the consultant’s report. If people are individually concerned, they should seek the advice of their own physician.”

Mr. Hagger stated the Girl Scouts have volunteered to decorate the Christmas Tree/s .

Ms. Costa asked if the Open House would be restricted to the first floor. Mr. Andreas replied in the affirmative, adding that the upstairs hallway could be available to set up a Christmas tree for view from the first floor.

Mr. Hagger proposed that two (2) new Christmas trees should be purchased for display at the Hosmer House.

Mr. Andreas motioned to purchase two (2) Christmas Trees of the same height and width, with built in white lights and needle texture to match the existing trees; approved to spend no more than \$1,600. Mr. Hagger seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-aye, Durall-aye, Andreas-aye

Hosmer House Historic Structures Report project status update/Cultural Landscape Report

Mr. Andreas stated the consultants have sent initial cost estimates to Ms. Duran and the final estimates will be ready in early November.

Hosmer House Collections Study project status update

Mr. Durall stated there is nothing new to report. Mr. Hagger stated we used the cost estimates in the report to help prepare the CPC Application.

Phase V Historic Resource Inventory Survey Project status update

Ms. Costa reported that SHC had not received a response from the Mass Historical Commission (MHC). She explained that she entered into conversation with Stacey Spies about reviewing the surveys of the Wayside Inn Area District and the Boston Post Road. According to Ms. Spies resume, she has completed eleven (11) Massachusetts town-wide surveys.

Ms. Costa stated that Ms. Spies agreed to review the surveys and provide SHC with a Word document with her comments.

Ms. Costa motioned to engage the services of Stacey Spies to review, comment and meet with our existing Phase 5 Historic Resource Inventory Survey Consultant, Andrew Robley, regarding the two draft Phase 5 Surveys with costs not to exceed \$800.00. Mr. Hagger seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-aye, Durall-aye, Andreas-aye

Mr. Hagger inquired if the money would come from the general fund. Ms. Costa replied in the affirmative.

Applicant for SHC Member

SHC Candidate, Peter Abair, 14 Dawson Drive

Peter Abair, a former member and Chair of the Sudbury Planning Board, member of the Sudbury Housing Trust expressed his interest in Sudbury's history and his desire to join the SHC.

Mr. Wallace inquired if there is a specific interest in the work of the SHC that particular appealed to Mr. Abair. Mr. Abair replied that he has great interest in the Historic Preservation Plan.

Mr. Andreas inquired if there is anything in Mr. Abair's work history which can be leveraged to the SHC'S benefit. Mr. Abair summarized his background in State and local Housing and Community Development positions as well as the economic aspects associated with historical preservation project. He detailed that he was involved with the laboratories in the former Henry Ford plant/s along the Charles River. Mr. Andreas asked Mr. Abair if he had experience with green development. Mr. Abair responded affirmatively.

Mr. Hagger commented the Historic Preservation Plan encourages Commissioners to work more closely with other stakeholders in Town and Mr. Abair's past experience with the Sudbury Planning Board would be helpful.

Mr. Hagger asked the applicant his opinion on a whole house demolition of a historic building. Mr. Abair stated the 6-month delay is an opportunity to open a discussion about the demolition delay of a historic house.

Mr. Hagger motioned to recommend Peter Abair be appointed as a member of the Sudbury Historic Commission. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion. It was on motion 5-0-1; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-abstain, Durall-aye, Andreas-aye

Tercentenary Markers in Sudbury

Mr. Wallace provided update regarding the tercentenary markers in Sudbury. He stated the Commission needs to come to a consensus about related recommendation to the Select Board.

Mr. Wallace opined about several possible locations were they markers could be relocated in order to effectively update Sudbury's History; Haynes-Garrison House, Hosmer House grounds and Loren Parsonage grounds.

Ms. Katz inquired if Town Counsel had issued an opinion about Sudbury's right to remove the markers.

Mr. Andreas noted that before the Commission recommends removal, someone needs to explain what is offensive or painful about the discussed signage/markers.

Mr. Hagger suggested SHC might have a conversation with the Sudbury Historical Society. Mr. Andreas was in agreement.

Mr. Wallace suggested SHC consider presenting an updated way of telling the history of Sudbury, as long as the removal of the tercentenary signs is done in a legally acceptable manner in order for the signs to be preserved to tell the public a more accurate historical story.

Demolition Delay Bylaw Draft Guidelines and Application Form

Mr. Wallace provided updates regarding the Demolition Delay Bylaw Draft Guidelines and Application Form.

Ms. Katz indicated that the form and draft guidelines were somewhat confusing.

Mr. Hagger inquired about the differences between the various form iterations. Mr. Wallace responded that the only difference was the placement of the guidelines.

Ms. Costa noted that the intent of the new form was to provide addition information to the applicants.

Mr. Hagger stated the Planning Director asked the Commission to provide additional detail regarding what should be included on the application.

Mr. Durall commented that the more specific the application, the more complete the application package will be.

Mr. Hagger stressed the importance of SHC providing guidance to the applicants regarding topics such as architectural and history detail to be included in the application.

Mr. Andreas indicated his preference to separate the application form from the guidelines piece.

Mr. Wallace motioned to accept the document called "The Demolition Delay Application Form with Ancillary Guide," as viewed tonight with additional reference to suggested application materials within the application form. Mr. Hagger seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-aye, Durall-aye, Andreas-aye

Cemetery Kiosk Update

Ms. Costa detailed that three (3) vendors were identified to receive the related RFP, which was developed by Ms. Katz. The deadline for the original RFPs had expired.

Ms. Costa stated that a revised RFP with a November 1, 2024 deadline was sent.

MACRIS Inventory Update for the Town of Sudbury Pound

Ms. Costa stated an email was received from the Sudbury Historical Society archivist Francesco Buccella, detailing that his research into the Sudbury Pound has found inaccuracies in the MACRIS Listing of 2021.

Ms. Katz recommended that a third-party be used to confirm the information is correct.

Phase 3 Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT)

Mr. Hagger stated that a SHC site walk will be scheduled for the BFRT, either last week in October or first week in November.

Sudbury Doing Good Fair -11-2-24 including table cover

Mr. Durall confirmed that a table cover identifying the SHC was needed. He stated the cost is dependent on what is placed on the cover.

Ms. Costa suggested using a throw from the Hosmer House as a table cover. Ms. Katz agreed with the suggestion.

Railroad Section House and South Sudbury Train Station

Mr. Hagger stated there were no updates at this time.

Scheduling of combined SHC/SHDC meeting required as a CLG

Mr. Hagger reported the combined SHC meeting with the SHDC has been scheduled for 10/28/24 at 7:00 PM.

Historic House Markers

Ms. Katz stated a sign maker has made two house signs at no cost to demonstrate his ability. Commissioners discussed and agreed to provide one of those signs to the home owner, free of charge.

Date for next SHC meeting

The next SHC meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2024.

Approval of September 17, 2024 SHC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the SHC Minutes of 9/17/24, as edited. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 5-0-1; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Costa-aye, Katz-aye, Durall-abstain, Andreas-aye

Adjourn

Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Sudbury Historical Commission. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0; Hagger-aye, Katz-aye, Costa-aye, Wallace-aye, Andreas-aye, Durall-aye

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM.