

Braintree Community Preservation Committee
Minutes

December 14, 2009
Thayer Public Library

Present: Anne Murphy (Chair) John Dennehy Darryl Mikami
Linda Raiss (V-Chair) Pat Flynn

Absent: Mike Dorn & Dick Fletcher

Also present: Christine Stickney, Director of Planning & Community Development

Meeting convened at 7:34 PM.

New state ethic commission rules:

Christine provided a handout from the Town Solicitor regarding the new ethics reform program. All members must sign receipt of the materials before 12/28/09. Christine explained that more information would be forthcoming about members having to take an on-line test before April 2010.

Responsible Employer Ordinance:

Christine provided a copy of the recently passed ordinance which projects in excess of \$250,000 must comply with. Anne Murphy questioned if this should be an attachment to our application – members agreed and staff will include it on the on-line version and handouts from the office.

Community Preservation Ordinance:

Christine had nothing to report as to any action from the Town Council. In October the ordinance had been reported to the sub-committee on Rules and Ordinance. The Chair will send an email to the Council President and chair of the subcommittee urging them to act on this matter quickly.

Highland School CPA application:

Members were provided with a letter dated 12-10-09 from the Braintree Historical Commission (BHC) relative to their vote finding the school historically significant. Anne Murphy asked if BHC members or the Chair could attend the January meeting of the committee to discuss this further. Linda Raiss asked what defines “historic significance.” John Dennehy responded that it is a phrase is nebulous and cited examples of other structures throughout the Town deemed historic because of architecture or association with individuals or events. Members agreed they would like to better understand the matter and that perhaps the BHC could assist them relative to this and other potential applications. Staff will contact the Chair and extend the invitation to meet.

John Dennehy asked members for their input relative to “story boarding” historic sites around Town. He explained that story boarding provides a physical – weather tight-board/display in front of a site that explains an event, person or other historic significance of the site and is used for tourism. Two sites the Historical Society would like to do

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within the year are the Sacco & Vanzetti site off French Street and the Stamp Act stone at the First Congregational Church on Elm Street. Pat Flynn noted that these boards/displays are very useful but also very costly and perhaps a better approach would be a townwide program for sites of interest. Submitting one application for a large number of story boards might be more cost effective. John will research the matter further but he feels it could be a worthy project for the community. He also updated the members on events starting April 15th to commemorate the Sacco & Vanzetti episode.

Administrative:

The 11/16/09 minutes were tabled until next month.

The 2010 dates of meetings were discussed again – the schedule is: January 11th, February 8th, March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, and June 14th.

A brief discussion on putting information on the web site about past projects – staff will work on this item.

Next month's meeting is January 11, 2010.

Pat Flynn **MOTION** to adjourn, seconded by John Dennehy – unanimously voted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney
Planning & Community Development Director