

**Braintree Historical Commission**  
Minutes  
**March 5, 2012**  
Town Hall – Cahill Auditorium

**Present:** Elizabeth Mees (Chair) Kate Nedelman-Herbst  
Ron Frazier Al Varraso  
Paul Carr

**Also Present:** Christine Stickney, Director of Planning and Community Development

Meeting convened at 7:02 PM

MHC Preservation Project Grant – Old Thayer Library:

Christine Stickney reported that the deadline for the grant is 3/30 and she is currently working with Jack Glassman of BH+A on a Phase II application for the doors and windows. Paul Carr questioned if the grant application was for only 3 sides as to the doors and windows since we are not sure what will happen at the rear of the building. Elizabeth noted this needs to be refined and voted at a later date as to the rear of the building.

Christine noted that BELD will be working with our DPW to place the electrical wires underground and remove the overhead wires from the building before construction starts. In addition Verizon and Fire will also be removed from the building so all utilities will be underground. Christine asked members what thoughts they had relative to the fire pull box remaining at the front of the building. Members had no issues with it remaining – it is functional.

CPA Projects – Spring Round 3/1

Christine reported on applications submitted that may involve the Historical Commission relative to funding requests; the Braintree Central Fire House, the Gallivan House, the Union School and Old Thayer Library; all preliminary requests at this point in the submission process.

Ron Frazier asked about the Elm Street Cemetery as a CPA project, he feels the stones are the most critical aspect at this point in time rather than the landscaping. He mentioned that Mr. Drollet approached him about restoring stones. Ron Frazier agreed to get estimates for the stoned and an estimate on the wrought iron fence to be restored.

Amendment to the Local Historic District:

Christine noted that the public hearing is scheduled for the next Historical Commission meeting on 4/2/12. Abutters will be notified as well as folks in the district and a legal advertisement will run in the Patriot Ledger. Paul agreed he would provide some history on the Gallivan House.

Discussion – work schedule for Zoning etc.

Christine noted that the above amendment to the Local Historical District will require an amendment to the General Bylaw and acceptance by the Council. She will work with Carolyn to have this move forward. Christine and Elizabeth recalled their meeting with the Mayor as to the demolition delay and a community standard bylaw. This draft needs to be pulled together as well and given to Carolyn – she had what was presented to the Mayor.

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Gallivan House – Historical Significance:

Christine reported that a CPA application has been made by the Historical Society relative to the Gallivan House for a new roof and other exterior restoration efforts. She noted there may be an issue as to its eligibility before the CPA committee since it is not as of yet officially located within the local Historic District and that the Historical Commission may want to discuss and/or vote relative to historical significance for it to be eligible for CPA funding. Al Varraso **MOTION to** find the Gallivan House historically significant and eligible for inclusion in the Local Historic District, seconded by Kate Nedelman Herbst – unanimously voted.

Discussion regarding Historical Significance:

Elizabeth asked members if they had a chance to review her draft relative to historical significance – some had and others had not. It was agreed to postpone discussion so that members could review for next meeting.

Ron Frazier commented on the house at 216 Elm Street and the remarkable work being done on it by the owners, Mr. & Mrs. Culkin. He suggested that the owners should be acknowledged for their restoration efforts – members suggested it be on the next agenda for discussion.

Administrative:

Ron Frazier MOTION to accept the minutes of 2/6/12, seconded by Kate Nedelman Herbst – unanimously voted.

Kate Nedelman Herbst MOTION to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paul Carr- unanimously voted.

Meeting adjourned at 8PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director  
Planning and Community Development