

Braintree Historical Commission
Minutes
October 1, 2012
Town Hall – Johnson Chambers

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

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

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM

CPA Projects - Members discussed the request of Inspectional Services to come to the next meeting (11/13/12) to present their CPA request. Members asked that the application be sent to them ahead of time.

Ron Frazier reported he is having difficulty getting two additional estimates for work at the Elm St Cemetery because of the uniqueness of the work. Al Varraso suggested that reaching out to a vendor should be considered as an attempt and suggested sharing that with the CPA that no quote could be obtained. Ron will provide a narrative of his attempts to the CPA to be included with the Elm Street cemetery.

Historical Significance Policy – Members were provided with a packet of materials; original marked up version dated 1/9/12, RF amendment, 4/2/12 minutes and a draft version dated 10/1/12. Christine explained that she provided all of these materials to assist the members in their discussions. Kate Nedelman Herbst commented her concern with the “general population” statement in the amendment under “F”. Ron Frazier explained the intent behind the suggested amended language. Elizabeth suggested revisions that included “community” and “that the BHC reserves the right” be added under section “F”.

Kate Nedelman Herbst also suggested new language for paragraph one under purpose – to read “one of the obligations and duties of the BHC is to make a recommendation as to the historical significance for CPA projects. The BHC has created these guidelines to assist applicants to determine their eligibility for applications.” Ron Frazier questioned if there should be a section with exceptions and Elizabeth commented that it was not needed. Elizabeth said she would include all the revisions in a new document for the next meeting and then the commission can vote on it.

Survey Results – Kate Nedelman Herbst commented she had wanted to put a press release together but did not get to it she will for the next meeting. Paul Carr commented that the results were interesting and he questioned how many had responded and how was it advertised. Christine responded only 126 responded and it had been on the Town’s website for 2 months – the local press had run notices in the papers to let folks know about it.

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Administrative: Ron Frazier **MOTION** to accept the minutes of 7/30/12, seconded by Kate Nedelman Herbst – unanimously voted. The 9/10/12 minutes were tabled until the next meeting.

Other: Elizabeth Mees asked about the status of Old Thayer – Christine reported the last bill has been submitted for phase I and T. Cooney should be paid soon. Christine had consulted with Town Counsel regarding having the same architect do phase II – she is waiting for an answer. Paul Carr asked about the front door if we were going to try and restore it to the original – Christine noted we discussed this at the last meeting and to date she has not been able to get in touch with the different folks asked by the committee at the last meeting. Kate Nedelman Herbst asked the status of the demolition delay – have we heard anything from Town Counsel? Christine will check on it

Al Varraso **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting seconded by Kate Nedelman Herbst – unanimously voted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director
Planning and Community Development