

Braintree Historical Commission
Minutes
Monday, November 2, 2015
Cahill Auditorium – Braintree Town Hall

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

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

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM

Future Historic Inventory Projects – South Braintree & Sunset Lakes

Ron Frazier brought a street map to the meeting that was marked up with areas that he had discussed with Nancy Nicosia that they felt should be documented with a historic inventory form. Members discussed their past project in the Elm Street area noting this would be a much larger area. Ron Frazier commented there is some notable properties on Hollis Ave and Hollingsworth Ave that should be inventoried as well as West Street. Members discussed if the area of interest and decided to break it apart into two potential sections.

Christine noted that the same process as before will have to be undertaken which involves a CPA application for funding. If approved then a proposal would be solicited for obtaining quotes, award and then a contract issued for work to begin. Christine said she would be ok with working on the CPA application however members would need to help describe the historical significance of the different neighborhoods.

Ron Frazier questioned what is the status of the Sylvanus Thayer Retirement home and property off of Washington/Georgiana Street? – Christine said she heard that they had solicited proposals; short listed them and were reviewing the short list.

Updates:

John Adams Park – Christine reported that Rev. Leanne Walt has relocated from the Church and the project is being handled by Craig Barnes and he said the panels are close to production. Paul Carr and Ron Frazier expressed concerns about the content of the panels as to accuracy. Christine said the Mayor's office has been in discussions with Rick Durham to proof panels for accuracy. Al Varasso had asked about the memorial stone previously and Christine reported that she had spoken with Craig Barnes who explained that as people walk up from Washington Street they access the area via the steps and are looking at the stone – no proposal to turnaround.

Elm Street Cemetery – the October Event seemed to bring a lot of public to the cemetery – there is an outstanding bill to be addressed which Christine is working with the Mayor's office however the stone project is complete. The CPC would like the fence addressed and will probably be looking for a CPA application from the Historic Commission.

Demolition Delay – Christine has no new news it has been in the Town Solicitor's office for a number of years since 2010 along with the LHD amendment. Paul Carr commented that the

Braintree Historical Society has expressed concerns with no progress on the Gallivan House and will probably be meeting with the Mayor. Members discussed if they should ask the Mayor to attend one of their meetings to discuss a number of these items that appear to be stalled. Christine was directed to ask if the Mayor would attend the 12/7 meeting.
Union School Assessment – Christine reported that she started the request for quotes but had to work on other items. She will try to get back to it soon.

Administrative

Ron Frazier noted some minor revisions to the 10/5 minutes and then **MOTION** to accept the minutes as revised, seconded by Al Varraso – unanimously voted.

Members reviewed the 2016 meeting schedule – Kate Nedelman Herbst noted some wrong dates that were changed and **MOTION** to accept the meeting schedule and submit for room reservations, seconded by Al Varraso – unanimously voted.

Christine informed the members there is a RFQ/RFP for a central fire station feasibility study out – there have been some discussions as to the staying at the Union Place location and expanding or a new location. If there is expansion at Union Place they will need to seek a Certificate of Appropriateness from the BHC before final design. Members asked that Christine send a letter to the Fire Chief and Habeeb Architects reminding of the Local Historic District requirements.

Ron Frazier **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kate Nedelman Herbst – unanimously voted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director
Planning and Community Development