

Braintree Historical Commission
Minutes
Monday, May 7, 2018
Fletcher Hall – Braintree Town Hall

Present: Elizabeth Mees (Chair) Kate Nedelman-Herbst
Ron Frazier

Absent: Santina Giannino

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

Meeting convened at 7:03 PM

New Business:

Review & Discussion of General Ordinance (18-025) – Demolition Delay

Christine provided the members with a copy of the proposed ordinance and the agenda for the Ordinance and Rules committee meeting scheduled for 5/9/18. She provided an explanation of what happened with the past submittal and how it has been re-submitted. Members reviewed the ordinance and felt it was the same as previously proposed – members agreed to be at the subcommittee meeting.

Cahill Auditorium Windows

There has been no change since the last meeting – Christine reported supposedly prices are being gathered and an application for CPA funding will be proposed. Elizabeth Mees commented that they will need the Certificate of Appropriateness and Christine added the DPW municipal facilities divisions have been informed.

Gallivan House Restriction

The legal department is reviewing to determine all the appropriate items are in order before the Town entities sign the historical preservation restriction. The Mayor’s office asked to continue it to the next meeting.

Old Business:

Member Vacancy – Christine reported that the Mayor’s office has had a potential candidate - Rayna Rubin. Ron Frazier asked if she was a member of the Braintree Historical Society and Christine was unsure – Members agreed to ask her to attend the next Commission meeting 6-4-18.

CPA Application – Universal Accessibility Old Town Hall and Town Hall

Christine explained that the Community Preservation Committee asked why there was no letter of support from the Commission on Disability (COD) for the project. Christine explained the COD would like a lift directly at the point of access and possibly in conjunction with the overall bermed walkway. Initially the application included an add alternate for the lifts. She provided members with the model “ascension tower less lift” that was proposed by the architects that could be adapted to the side of the portico. Conversation between the Planning/Community Development staff and the ADA coordinator also revealed that the COD preference is to have the lift inside the portico with all four sides enclosed. Christine was to talk with the Commission and Kristen with the COD also meeting tonight but then to have a joint meeting in June to discuss. Elizabeth Mees asked if the architect BH+A could attend

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however Christine suggested meet with them jointly to reach consensus and then let BH+A prepare something that we could have as a general rendering and have them attend a meeting after June. Members agreed – in addition discussion turned to the roof of the portico and returning it to the original four corners and railings that have been taken down. BHC members would like to see that restored as part of the project.

Elm Street Cemetery: Christine reported work is underway with the masons on the stone wall. There was a concern brought to the department from Frank Drollett who had worked on the site before about the current contractor using power tools. Christine asked Derek Manning to investigate and he said they could and explained why they were using them to address the mortar overage on to the stones. Christine also informed the members they secured the last right of entry on the abutting properties so that the mason can work both sides of the stone wall.

Union School: Elizabeth Mees noted the additional funding was appropriated by the Town Council and Christine reported the architects are underway. Ron Frazier noted they have been out to the building already and he asked if they will be doing a paint analysis because of pictures he has seen. Christine said she would check it may have already been done in the assessment but she would get back to the BHC. She did note the 100th anniversary date has been moved up to 7/1/19 which makes for a very tight construction schedule.

Administrative: The minutes were reviewed as two minor corrections in the last paragraph, Kate Nedelman-Herbst **MOTION** to accept the minutes as revised, seconded by Ron Frazier – unanimously voted.

Other: Christine commented that Derek Manning may becoming before the Historical Commission at a future meeting to discuss a town wide historic preservation plan. Elizabeth Mees said it is like a master plan for the historical resources. Ron Frazier commented we need to do the South Braintree Inventory as soon as possible.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director
Planning and Community Development