

Braintree Historical Commission
Minutes
Monday, May 2, 2016
Johnson Chambers – Braintree Town Hall

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

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

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM

New Business:

Resignation of member Al Varraso: Christine Stickney provided members with a letter from Mr. Varraso dated 4/15/16 informing the Historical Commission of his resignation from the commission due to his appointment to the Board of Registrars by the Mayor. Members acknowledge the resignation and agreed to send a letter of appreciation for his years of service on the Commission. In addition, the Chair suggested members think about potential residents who might be interested in the vacancy on the commission. Ron Frazier commented that the Commission should have seven members, five full and two alternates as stated in the Charter.

Old Business:

John Adams Park: Members discussed the recent event and the introduction of the park. Christine commented that a slight problem has arisen as to the additional costs and the CPC is looking into the matter to address the overrun.

Elm Street Cemetery: Christine reported that the Town Council appropriated the CPC funds \$75,000 for a project manager and \$750,000 for repairs to the wall and fence. Staff will be working with Linda Raiss to get the first solicitation out for a project manager as soon as possible.

Demolition Delay: Members question the status of the proposed bylaw with the Council and Christine said she would inquiry when the next meeting will be to discuss.

Gallivan House restriction: Christine reported no new news on any progress. Members discussed having the property within the Local Historic District. Christine reminded members that the process had been started some years back, there was a proposal submitted, the Planning Board held a public hearing and recommended favorable and it was then sent to the Mayor's office for referral to the Council. That seems to be where it remains.

Union School Assessment: Christine reported the solicitation deadline was 4/21/16 and there were 4 proposals submitted from CBI, CSS Associates, B. Goba Associates and David King. An evaluation committee has been created, Ms. Mees, R. Forsberg, A. Varraso and Christine who will meet and make a recommendation to the Mayor. Assuming the Mayor accepts the recommendation for the first rank – negotiations can take place on the fee for the service and then it can re-appear before the CPC for recommendation.

Page 2
BHC Minutes 5/2/16

Old Thayer Library – Phase III:

Christine had followed up with BH+A. Members were provided with a memo From BH+A to the D.G. Jones asking for a conceptual cost estimate for the proposal ADA landscape mall connecting the two buildings. Members were provided with the DGJ estimate dated 3/2/16 that responded to the request in an itemized layout with a consolidated cost estimate of approx. \$1.5 million. Christine commented that she wanted to share this first with the Commission to review and that it could be discussed at the next meeting of the CPC on 5/9/16. Members agreed to review.

Other: Ron Frazier asked Christine if any progress had been made with the Historic Inventory as a CPC application. Christine responded no due to other demands on the department however if they are able to get an intern for the summer that would be a good project to have them work on. Paul Carr asked if there was any thought of expanding the Local Historic District to include the Headmaster house on the Thayer property? The Chair commented there hasn't been anything submitted for the property as of yet.

Administrative:

Future meetings: Members agreed to cancel the June meeting, meet on 7/11/16, skip August, meet 9/12/16 and Tues 10/4/16 and wait on Nov. because of the election and meet 12/5/16 – future changes may be needed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director
Planning and Community Development