

Braintree Historical Commission  
Minutes  
**Monday, January 06, 2020**  
Johnson Chambers – Braintree Town Hall

**Present:** Elizabeth Mees (Chair)                      Santina Giannino                      Robert S. Harris  
                 Ronald F. Frazier                                      Kate Nedelman-Herbst                      Rayna Rubin

**Also Present:** Derek Manning, CPC Manager  
                         Christine Stickney, Director of Planning and Community Development

7:00 PM Meeting convened

The Chair announced that she would not be continuing with the Commission under the new administration. She expressed her gratitude to the other Commission members and staff for their dedication and work with the Commission. The Chair will remain on the Commission until its formal reorganization by the administration.

**New Business:**

Committee Reorganization: Christine reported that she is still awaiting word from the Mayor's office with regards to any possible reorganization of the Commission. The Commission will continue to operate as normal until further notice.

Daughraty Gym: Derek reported that all comments on the Daughraty Gym design were submitted to the architect just after Christmas and the architect was working on updating the cost estimate accordingly.

MHC Grant Application – Letter of Support: Derek reported that the Massachusetts Historical Commission had invited the Town to submit a full application for the 2020 Survey and Planning Grant. Derek summarized what the grant would be used for and stated that the application needed to include a letter of support from the Historical Commission. Derek provided a draft letter of support for the Commission's approval. Ron Frazier moved to approve the letter of support. Rayna Rubin seconds. Commission voted unanimously to approve the letter of support.

**Old Business:**

Elm Street Cemetery: Derek reported that installation of the topper fence at Elm Street Cemetery was underway with approximately 1/3 of the fence installed. Derek noted that during a visit to the cemetery he noted a number of issues with installation and the paint on the new fence. Derek informed the Commission that he was scheduled to meet with the architect and the contractor on January 10<sup>th</sup> to review the progress and discuss the installation issues. A question was raised regarding the warranty. Derek did not have that information but would provide it for the next meeting.

Thayer House: A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Thayer House Roof project. Robert Harris presented the materials used for the project including samples of the new shingles, replacement bricks, and mortar. Mr. Harris also provided copies of earlier correspondence between the Braintree Historical Society and the Commission.

Kate Nadelman-Herbst lead much of the conversation with the focus on how the project fell within the parameters for not requiring a Certificate of Appropriateness as outlined in the September 17, 2019 email from John Goldrosen (Assistant Town Solicitor) to Christine Stickney. The Commission members reviewed the proposed roof shingle and agreed that the new shingles would not change the design, material, color, or outward appearance of the roof. The Commission reviewed the proposed replacement brick and mortar. The Commission concluded that the proposed brick and mortar would not result in changes to the design, material, color, or appearance of the chimney. Additionally, the Commission discussed whether the project fell under any of the categories of actions called out by Mr. Goldrosen in his September 17<sup>th</sup> letter that would require a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Kate Nadelman-Herbst moved that “No Certificate of Appropriateness needed because the roof replacement is exempt under Section 2.755.070 as the repair does not involve a change in design, material, color, or the outward appearance of the roof. Rayna Rubin seconded the motion. Elizabeth Mees, Ron Frazier, Rayna Rubin, Kate Nadelman-Herbst, and Santina Giannino vote in favor. Robert Harris abstained.

**Administration:**

Minutes 12/02/2019: Ron Frazier moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Rayna Rubin – unanimously voted.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:05PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Stickney, Director  
Planning and Community Development