

Braintree Historical Commission
Minutes

January 13, 2010
Thayer Public Library

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

Absent: Ron Frazier

Also present: Christine Stickney, Director of Planning & Community Development.

Meeting convened at 7:05 PM

Minutes:

Kate Nedelman Herbst **MOTION** to accept the minutes of 12/9/09, seconded by Al Varraso – unanimously voted.

Sustainable Bylaw: - review of the bylaw verbiage was tabled until the next meeting. Members did discuss moving it forward and asked Christine to check on the dates of upcoming Planning Board meetings to have a discussion. They also agreed to invite Mayor Sullivan to come to the next meeting – Feb 1st to discuss the bylaw and seek his approval for submission to the Town Council.

Old Thayer Library update: - Christine reported that the Council voted appropriation of the 35,000.00 from the CPA funds as requested by the Mayor's office. She has been working on developing an RFQ/RFP but due to workload is behind in getting it out. Members discussed a time frame of early February to get it out and advertised. Elizabeth Mees noted there is no information on-line as to the MPPF grant program. Christine did share a copy of the National Register designation that the department obtained. Paul Carr noted that this is good to know and maybe useful with Congressman Lynch and possibly a federal earmark of funding.

Elm Street Cemetery: - Christine asked for clarification as to the 11/10 vote and the amount of the contract. Kate Nedelman Herbst **MOTION** to re-affirm the 11/10/09 vote to approve the Donahue proposal in the amount of \$19,000.00 to commence work on the Elm Street Cemetery, seconded Al Varraso – unanimously voted. Christine will give notice of award to Ms. Donahue and follow-thru on the required paperwork.

All Souls Church: Christine noted an inquiry from a Ms. Margie Kearns about the process of having the church nominated for the historical register. Member Paul Carr and Elizabeth Mees recalled something in the Braintree Historic Resource Book relative to an inventory form being completed – MHC- 234. Members then discussed the issue of a

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local historic district in this area and cited other significant structures around the church. Members were interested in learning more of the church's desire for designation and asked Christine to reach out to Ms. Kearns about it and provide some information before the next meeting. If the church pursues this Ms. Mees suggested having ms. Kearns and others come to the March meeting for a discussion.

Other discussion items:

Paul Carr noted a recent interest in some homeowners to learn of the history of their home and they have been reaching out to the Historical Society for assistance. Discussion turned to date boards on the structures and research that the historical commission maybe able to do for a small nominal fee. Ms. Mees noted her desire to have uniformity with date boards and the signage of the historic district. It was agreed to discuss further putting together possible guidelines.

Members also discussed seeking CPA funds to update the Historic Resource Book originally done in 2002 by Electra Tritsch – Ms. Mees noted there are additional items in need of attention with an update. Christine informed members that the next round of CPA applications have a deadline in March.

Galvan House: Paul Carr expressed his desire to get the house included in the district as soon as possible. Paul showed members information that he intends on submitting to the BHC as a request – Christine noted a map showing the inclusion of the property needs to be included for the public to view if they respond to the advertisement. Members urged Christine to move the process forward and possibly schedule a public hearing for the February 1, 2010 meeting if time frames could be met.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Respectfully submitted

Christine Stickney, Director
Planning and Community Development