



MEETING MINUTES

Town of Acton of Acton Community Preservation Committee

May 8, 2008

Acton Memorial Library

Attending: Walter Foster, Ken Sghia-Hughes, Nancy Tavernier, Tory Beyer, Ed Starzec, Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Ron Schlegel, Roland Bartl (Planning Department), Steve Noone (Finance Committee), Linda McElroy, Land Steward Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM by Ken Sghia-Hughes. Nancy Tavernier agreed to take minutes in the absence of Jon Benson.

The minutes of the April 24 meeting were approved as written.

I. Presentation by Linda McElroy for expanded scope in Stone Chamber project

Linda requested permission to expand the scope of the Stone Chamber project from 2006 using the left-over funds to enhance the foundation of a Blacksmith Shop that was discovered adjacent to the Stone Chamber. The additional work would cost less than \$5000 to be covered by the unexpended portion of the original grant.

The proposal is to remove organic material from the interior of the Blacksmith Shop foundation and replace the tumbled stones back on the original walls of the foundation. The work on this was a result of the work done on the Chamber, the archaeologist working on the Chamber discovered the importance of the pile of rocks and determined it was a foundation. These two projects are related and therefore it should be interpreted to be related to the original scope.

An archaeologist will supervise the removal and sifting of organic material and the masons working on Wheeler Farm foundation will replace the walling stones. Field School students will sift the organic material.

CPC voted to approve this expansion of scope finding it consistent with and related to the original project. The use of remaining funds for the enhancement of the Blacksmith Shop foundation was approved.

II. Award Letters - Review

The following Award Letters were reviewed, revised and approved as amended:

1. ACHC Community Housing Program Fund
2. ACHC Administrative Fund
3. Trail through Time
4. Theatre III
5. Conant Nature Trail Design Study
6. Elm St. Playground
7. NARA picnic pavilion

The balance of the Award Letters had been approved at the previous meeting.

III. Exchange Hall clarification of letter

Walter addressed the questions that Glenn Berger had submitted to CPC to clarify points in the letter. The committee agreed on the interpretation of the conditions and Walter will transmit the information to Berger.

Berger updated Walter on the project. Glenn is currently looking for more parking and once obtained he will approach the BOS about a revised site plan to reflect the new parking. Then once that is approved, he will be ready to find a tenant and apply to the Federal government for the historic tax credit program.

IV. Project Status Update

The committee reviewed the project status worksheet maintained by Susan, updated projects that had been completed, and noted those that need follow-up from liaisons.

Jon Benson will need to check with the High School lighting group to be sure all the conditions were honored, specifically whether the netting has been installed that was to protect the tennis players from errant baseballs.

V. Newton Case

Walter reported that the SJC had not put the case on the docket before their summer vacation so the earliest it will be heard will be the Fall. This will give other cities and towns and perhaps the Coalition time to sign on to the amicus brief. Walter spoke to Stuart Saginor who was very pleased with the

brief and Acton's efforts. It is hoped that any town or group joining would make a contribution to Acton to help cover its legal expenses.

VI. Membership and reappointments

Ken reported that there will be several changes in the membership. Ken will seek reappointment from the AHA. Ed will be moving out of town and he has begun the process of finding a new Planning board member. Tory Beyer will ask the Historical Commission members if anyone would like to take her place, if not she will take reappointment. Andy Magee will not continue on the CPC, he is looking for a Conservation Commission member to take his position. Peter Berry will return to the CPC as the BOS rep and Walter will take the full member at-large position vacated by Nancy who will return to the open Associate member slot. Ron, Susan, Corrina, and Jon will stay in place.

Nancy mentioned that she would like to have the CPC and BOS revisit the request made by her and Jon Benson two years ago that the CPC Bylaw be revised to allow associate members at the very least be counted in the quorum for absent full members and ideally to also have a vote in their absence. Town Counsel drafted an amendment for the Bylaw but it was turned down by the BOS.

VII. Meeting schedule

The following meetings were cancelled: May 22 and June 26. There are no meetings scheduled for July and August but that may change when discussion at the June 12 meeting takes place. Plans needs to be made in regard to making a major effort to update the plan, it may be the 3rd year since it was done last. If so, then a summer meeting will be needed. The June 12 meeting will be held in Town Hall, room 204. Officers will be elected at that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30PM.

Nancy Tavernier, clerk pro tem