

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 - Maynard Public Library

Meeting called to order by Jack MacKeen at 7:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Lee Caras, Ken Neuhauser, Ellen Duggan, Paul Boothroyd and Peg Brown.

Guest: Richard Asmann, Maynard Building Commissioner

Approved Minutes of January 17th meeting. Motion by Jack; seconded by Paul. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Historic Preservation By-law: Implementation discussion with Building Commissioner.

Jack prefaced Rick's remarks by noting that the MA Attorney General's approval of our by-law will take approximately 45-60 days from the date of town meeting approval; therefore, it is not currently in effect. Meanwhile, three listed properties are for sale: the Methodist Church, Gruber Bros. Furniture and 118 Powdermill Road.

Rick Asmann stated that a demolition permit in the town of Maynard is actually a building permit--one that is required when a building is to be disconnected from all utilities (sewer, electrical, etc.) so that destruction/renovation can proceed. In contrast, the new by-law defines "demolition" simply as the destruction of at least "half of the Total Gross Floor Area of the building as determined by the Building Commissioner". So, according to Rick, a building permit that does not require utility disconnections would not be characterized as a demolition permit under the town definition.

He recommended that the Commission create a form the Building Commissioner could use as an appended page to the Town's building permit application. Such a form would describe and give examples of the by-law's Section 3.C (Procedure). He noted that Section 3.C.4.-6. are not requirements of a town building permit.

Also discussed: adding a notation of status as an Historically Significant Building to each such building on the town Assessor's list.

Honorary plaque for Dave Griffin: Jack displayed the plaque and made a motion to elect Dave as a "member emeritus" of the Historical Commission; seconded by Paul. Approved.

2016 annual report of the Commission to the Town: motion to approve by Lee; seconded by Ellen. Approved.

Creation of funding vehicle for historic preservation using CPA grants: Ken met with Mike Guzzo, Town Accountant, who will explore options and report back to Ken.

MACRIS - Phase Two: the State database does not yet include the new entries.

ARRT historic markers: consultant Lynn Horsky has forwarded finalized panels to Michele Grenier, Conservation Administrator/Assistant Planner, who serves as the town liaison to ARRT.

Glenwood Cemetery Pond renewal: Paul reported that an application for state funding will be made next year.

FY 2017 Historical Markers proposed: From the List of Historically Significant Properties in Maynard
#2 (Levi Smith/Red Fox Inn), #11 (Lucius Maynard/Gibson Farm), #12 (the Mill Complex), #14 (St. Bridget's), #32 (Jonathan Smith Hse.), #34 (Asa Dexter Smith Hse.), and #48 (Alumni Field Hse.).

Paul also suggested 4 Bancroft Street (Amory Maynard's 2nd Hse.), and thought we should consider historic "sites" as well as extant buildings (e.g., formerly the site of...).

Historic restoration awards: discussion tabled for a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Additional members/recruiting: there are two openings for alternate members.

OTHER BUSINESS/MEMBERS' THOUGHTS

Paul will create a file on the Gruber Building (Riverside Hall) #42, which will probably become subject to the demolition delay by-law.

Peg reported that the Friends of the Council on Aging are planning to produce a new version of the 1971 Maynardopoly game.

Jack asked all Commission members to review Priscilla's proposed survey, which will be offered to Maynard residents as an opportunity to express their preferences for celebrating the Sesquicentennial.

Motion to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:45pm
Next Meeting: March 21, 2017