

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, June 20, 2017 - Maynard Public Library

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Ellen Duggan, Paul Boothroyd, Lee Caras, Ken Neuhauser, Priscilla Sandberg, Peg Brown, John Courville, and Ken Estabrook (unofficial contributing volunteer). Guests: Bill Goddard, Frank Dentino, and Kathleen Dentino.

Approved minutes of May 16th meeting following brief discussion and correction. Motion by Paul; seconded by Ellen.

NEW BUSINESS

Guests representing present and future ownership interests in the Gruber Brothers Building (formerly Riverside Hall, #42 on the Historically Significant Properties list) at 115 Main Street informed the Commission that they would like to demolish it.

MHC had already concluded, by informal straw vote taken last January, that the building was no longer Historically Significant.

MOTION: Jack moved that MHC declare that Riverside Hall (a.k.a. Gruber Bros. Building) is no longer Historically Significant. Seconded by Paul. Approved.

Maynard Building Commissioner, Rick Asmann, will be informed of this decision. This vote will allow him to approve an initial application form for the building's demolition. The Commission was told by Bill Goddard that the sale and redevelopment of the property has been contingent on the Commission's decision to remove it from the list of Historically Significant properties.

Goddard, who will become the new owner, agreed to the Historical Commission's request that the historical plaques currently on site (marker and photo) be displayed again once the new building is erected. They must be mounted in a place that is visible to the public.

Peg said that the Commission should still plan to create a file about Riverside Hall/ Gruber Bros. for its Historically Significant Properties records.

OLD BUSINESS

Historic Preservation Bylaw implementation process:

Ken Neuhauser and Ken Estabrook agreed to continue to work together to create the documents needed to implement all provisions of the bylaw. These will include an intake form, as an addendum to the building permit application, that will explain the process and present a flow chart diagram of the process. The materials will be in an information packet in the Building Commissioner's office, available for anyone interested in significantly altering or demolishing an Historically Significant property. Rick Asmann is willing to notify MHC regarding any request to make any change in such a property, but will need a memo from the Commission regarding such a notification process.

Revolving Fund for historic preservation through CPC:

MOTION: Ellen moved that an application to CPC for \$25,000 be made for a revolving fund using language similar to that used by the Conservation Commission for its long-term fund. Seconded by Jack; approved.

ACTION ITEM: Priscilla will complete a preliminary application form to CPC for this.

ACTION ITEM: Paul will meet with Aaron Miklosco again to consider the idea of requesting a grant of \$10,000 from CPC for the cemetery pond project this fall.

Historical Markers for the Mill: the project was tabled because the mill's property management team is in flux. The Commission decided to focus on possible National Register designation for other historic town properties instead.

ACTION ITEM: Lee volunteered to identify 1-2 such properties for a preliminary application to CPC for funding at \$10,000. Properties will come from the list of Historically Significant properties and be among those recommended by Joan Rockwell for NR designation in the town's historic properties survey #1.

Sesquicentennial planning: Priscilla and Jack met with Andrew Scribner-MacLean.

Authorization of a planning committee will be an agenda item for the July 5th Board of Selectmen meeting.

Update on threatened Historically Significant properties: Jack said that planning for 116 and 118 Powdermill Road continues, as does discussion among various groups interested in a possible joint purchase of the Union Congregational Church that is for sale.

Election of Officers of MHC:

Ellen volunteered to serve another year as liaison to CPC.

Priscilla will become a regular member of the Commission and agreed to serve as Vice-Chairperson.

Lee will continue as Clerk.

Jack will continue as Chairperson.

An annual review of the Historically Significant properties list will be scheduled for May 2018.

MHC Five-Year Plan: Jack has a copy of the most recent version (2013) and will email it to Commission members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Next meeting: July 25, 2017