

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 - Maynard Town Hall - 2nd Floor Conference Room

Meeting called to order by Peg Brown at 7:05.

Members Present: Peg Brown, Jack MacKeen, Lee Caras and Dave Griffin

Members Absent: None.

Also in Attendance: Vic Tomyl (for a few minutes at the beginning of the meeting).

Acceptance of meeting minutes from the June 16th Meeting: Motion made to accept the minutes as recorded. Dave seconded the motion. Unanimous acceptance of the minutes.

Vic Tomyl asked about the status of the radar survey of the gravesites.

Maynard Community Development Principles

Jack reviewed the history and status of the community development principles. The Maynard Board of Selectmen has unanimously affirmed their support of these principles.

Neighborhood Walkabouts

The Commission has completed its informal walks of historic properties for the year. We will resume the walks when the evening sun returns in the late spring or early summer.

Commission Membership

Ellen Duggan will not be returning as a member - she may become an associate member. Suggestions for additional members were bandied about and the MHC is listed on the town list of committees needing members.

Creating a Commission Budget

The members discussed the need for the Commission to have a token line item in the town budget to support membership fees in appropriate groups, signage for historical properties, etc. This would also help raise the profile of the Commission in the town.

Discussion continued on the properties survey (MACRIS) and how we might consider getting the survey completed (the 1990's study focused on selected neighborhoods). We're not certain the company that did the last survey is still in business. There may be a possibility of using CPA grants for this project.

Top 20 Property List - An Impossible Task?

Lee thinks that the best list is not necessarily individual properties, but rather blocks or neighborhoods that have a high density of historic properties, perhaps with a highlight building. She is going to conduct a survey with the intent of identifying a "top 20" list that we can begin working with.

Next Steps in Historic Preservation Awards / House Plaques

Plaques: Peg notes that most towns allow people to purchase plaques given they have proof of the property's pedigree. This gets people involved in local history.

Awards: The awards is a program by the MHC where we would recognize preservation and restoration to properties in town.

Lee suggested a photography exhibit and/or contest to highlight both public and private properties in town.

Peg asked the commission to think about the guidelines for the aforementioned programs.

Cell Tower at Maynard Country Club

The Commission received a letter regarding a possible cell tower being erected on an extreme border of the Maynard Country Club (near the Acton line). We know of no historical significance to the land where the tower is to be sited and will communicate this to the company.

Motion to adjourn, 2nd by Jack. The Commission concluded its meeting at 8:30 and moved down the hall to provide a status update to the Board of Selectmen.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Griffin, Clerk