

Wakefield Historical Commission
September 20, 2022
Minutes of Meeting

In attendance: Fran Harrington, Dan Benjamin, Therese Frazier, Cathlina Driver, Frank Giangregorio, Nancy Bertrand, chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Benjamin.

Condition of the Bandstand. Architect Peter Scott was on hand to elaborate on the deteriorating condition of this historic structure. He and architect Brian Thomson have met with representatives of the Department of Public Works to discuss ways to restore the structure. The posts will likely be stripped of paint and patched, the handrail that was installed by the WCNA in a past restoration will be replaced by an aluminum railing. Other steps were also outlined, but plans are still under discussion. No real work will likely be done until the spring. On behalf of the Commission, Chair Nancy Bertrand asked if it might be appropriate to have a formal Historic Structure Report done in order to help guide the restoration.

Public Participation. Questions arose concerning the upcoming construction of the new Northeast Regional Vocational High School building, on 30 acres of ground. There is concern that no archaeological assessment may have been done on this land. The Commission will find out if an assessment was done and if one is planned.

Demolition Delay Bylaw. Demolition requests were received for 13 Greenwood Street AKA 1 Hickory Hill Road, a colonial revival building constructed in 1840 as the Joseph J. Locke House, and for 8 Myrtle Avenue, an Italianate structure built in 1850. On a motion of Fran Harrington, with a unanimous approval, a public hearing will be held on these matters at the Commission meeting of October 25th, at 8:00 p.m.

Work on the Floral Way. The path has been replaced and some planting done. The fence at the Hartshorne House will be done late this fall. The fencing along the Old Burying Ground will be accomplished in spring, 2023.

Historic House Markers. Fran and Joe Harrington have supplied 5 'blanks' for use as House Markers; local artist David Workman will do the finish work, painting and lettering and deliver them to homeowners, at a total cost of \$75. Also, a quote has been requested from the business acting as the successor for Ould Colony Artisans to see if they might be an alternative for the future.

Bills to Review. The Commission unanimously approved reimbursing Nancy Bertrand for paying \$105.19 to Wordpress (website) and \$202 to USPS (post office box).

Other matters:

Anthony Arcari is submitting a plan for the marker for the structure replacing 259 Water Street:
birthplace of
John A. Volpe
December 8, 1908
Governor of Massachusetts
Secretary of transportation
Ambassador to Italy

Town Day is October 8th, 1-4 p.m. The DPW would supply a table for the Commission. Nancy would supply handouts for the public but cannot staff a table. Volunteers were sought, and must report by 9/26.

The Wakefield History Museum has a full schedule of open days for Fall and early Winter, beginning Sunday, September 25th, 1-3 p.m. The full schedule is present at <http://www.wakefieldhistory.org>

Dan wondered if we might consider erecting interpretive markers around the projected Rail to Trail route. The Commission will make interpretive markers a goal for the future. Dan will suggest Rail to Trail site markers, and other markers might be erected Lakeside.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.