

Bolton Historical Commission
Minutes of Meeting
November 1, 2023

Attendees:

Chairman: Robert Busch

Members Present: Robert Tattersall, Alice Coggeshall, Jeannemarie Padovano, and Nate Smith, Martha Remington

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Updates:

- **East End Historic District Status/Planning meeting** - Chairman Busch suggested a January date for the resident meeting, making sure to include Anne Forbes as she is the resident expert. We will plan to hold our monthly meeting at 6pm as usual, and then start the planning meeting at 7pm. B. Busch will contact A. Forbes to determine her availability. She still has not received feedback from MA Historical on the status. Commissioners agreed to hold the December meeting at 7pm so that A. Forbes will be able to attend and discuss details. R. Tattersall will draw up an invite to go to residents. We will plan to include printed copies of the three documents related to the NRHD. Everyone who is identified in the submission to MHC will be on the mailing list. A public meeting will be posted, however, residents will get an advance notice. Nate Smith will create a slide show presentation to answer resident questions and concerns over a historic district. We will schedule our next monthly meeting for December 6th at 7pm.
- **Update on 22 West Berlin Rd.** - The property owner invited B. Busch to tour the property, however, he was unavailable that day. B. Busch will continue to reach out to Mr. Daley. Mr. Daley informed B. Busch that they have ripped out the interior completely and are in the process of appraising the timber to see what is salvageable.
- **Persons Park Memorial Status** - B. Busch met with Randy Heglin at Persons Park to review different placement options for the benches. They are positioned on the lake side of the rocks. Stakes have been driven where the benches will be positioned so foundations can be poured.
- **Fall Work at Pan Cemetery** - Headstones that commissioners cleaned two years ago still look great. The bollards to the left (which B. Busch revamped) of the main entrance have held up well. The bollards on the right need a lot of cleaning and painting. Because of weather and schedule constraints we will wait until spring to work on this project.

New Topics:

- **Debrief Master Plan Community Discussion** - B. Busch relayed that the meeting started with a brief intro, then continued with participants being assigned to breakout rooms. Any buildings on the registry may potentially qualify for a grant within the Municipal Building Conditions Assessment Report (2022). The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grant program will be accepting applications starting in

January and running through March. Nate Smith will collect information and resources to forward to B. Busch.

- **FY 25 Budget** - B. Busch presented the budget to the Select Board. The original 2023 budget was earmarked for signage, which didn't happen, but instead went to purchasing the Persons Park benches. The Select Board approved this, and the plan was revised to purchase the signs in FY '24. In presenting the budget to the Select Board, B. Busch proposed we should spend it on signs for the East End district as it is approved. Commissioners are charged with reflecting on what projects would be beneficial. One potential project could be fixing the Pan District sign on 117 east which has been damaged by plows. B. Busch will present a level funded budget, and commissioners will propose project ideas.
- **Review and approve meeting minutes** - October meeting minutes were approved.
- **Schedule and identify agenda items for next month** - Pat Bensettler is very concerned about the beaver flooding behind the Bolton Historical Society. DPW put in a pipe to transfer water and try to relocate beavers.
- **Mail** - no new mail.
- **Town Hall space for files** - Files that are currently at A. Coggeshall's house should be moved, however, space is limited.

Meeting adjourned 7:21pm

Next meeting : December 6th @ 7pm

Respectfully submitted, Jeannemarie Padovano