

Bolton Historical Commission
Minutes of Meeting
December 6, 2023

Attendees:

Chairman: Robert Busch

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

Guests: Pat Bensettler, Anne Tattersall, Anne Forbes

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Updates:

FY 24/25 Budget - M. Remington will research options for fixing the historical district sign on Rt. 117. The bollards will also need to be repaired. Chairman Busch thinks we may see a demo permit for the Old Firehouse before the end of the year and we could potentially allocate funds for a memorial.

22 West Berlin Rd - Chairman Busch visited the property and provided an update. The building has been gutted and the original front antique structure is actually quite small. The intermediate structure connecting the barn is not very old. The owner is still reviewing his options. He will likely keep the barn and may or may not restore the house. M. Remington inquired about the Beech tree. Chairman Busch believes it likely will be saved.

Persons Park Memorial Status - The foundations were poured on Monday, December 4, 2023. Chairman Busch asked that full concrete pads be used for added permanence. They will pin the benches into the concrete after the concrete has set up.

East End Historic District Status/Planning - A. Forbes is still waiting for input from Mass Historical. A resident meeting will be held at 7pm Wednesday, Jan17th via Zoom.

N. Smith put together charts with information for the residents. The resident materials will include the booklet from Mass Historical that discusses the difference between a national and local historic district. No ad in a local paper is planned. N. Smith posted the documents to be included in the mailing. B. Busch will write the cover letter and send it to Commissioners for their approval. R. Tattersall will print the letter and mail the resident materials out before the end of the year.

New Topics:

Pat Bensettler presented information about beaver flooding in the Mechanic/Main Street area and is concerned about potential damage to historic properties in the area. The Commission is supportive of the concerns but indicated that it has no specific jurisdiction and that it is a matter for DPW. Pat indicated that she planned to continue her work, including determining what other towns have done to address similar problems and would report back.

Administrative:

November meeting minutes were approved.

No special agenda items identified for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:32pm

Next Meeting: Jan. 17, 2024 @ 6pm

Respectfully submitted, Jeannemarie Padovano