



# Attleboro Historical Commission

Government Center – 77 Park Street  
Attleboro, Massachusetts, 02703



Minutes – September 3, 2020

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**Regular Members:** Marian Wrightington (Chair), Brian French, Bette Fuller, Rachel Killion, Bill Lewis, Brian Ludwig

**Alternate Members:** Brian Hatch, Chris Frappier

**Guest:** none

Brian Hatch acting as Regular Member in the absence of Jerry Raposa

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the AHC did not meet from April-June 2020. The September meeting was held at the Newell Shelter at Capron Park to conform with social distancing guidelines.

Meeting called to order by Chair, Marian Wrightington at 5:37 PM

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Bette Fuller to accept the minutes from the March 9, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Bill Lewis. Passed unanimously.

## REPORTS

**Attleboro Historic Preservation Society** – 2020-2021 programming is on hold.

**Schoolhouse Conditions** – Muggsville: Hope Depot is interesting in helping with the project and will consider working with us after pandemic subsidies.

**Zoning and Planning Notices** – more land has been cleared around Cooper house on Pleasant Street.

**Attleboro Land Trust** – working on a grant for the Barrows house. Bill is compiling a virtual history on the Barrows property and continues to work with AHS students.

**Burial Grounds** – Ben Cote continues to maintain Dodge Island cemetery. Rachel and family cleaned Solomon; some difficulty getting the City to pick up debris. Chris checked on Thayer and will visit Follett. Headstone found at West Street barn is still with Duffy-Poole funeral home and they are in contact with Norton and Taunton to try and get it returned. Rachel will post cemetery clean-ups through AHPS Facebook page to attract volunteers. Brian Hatch will contact Nick Wyllie, Conservation Agent, to see if has suggestions about removing vegetation.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Switch Tower** – no new information.

**Wolfenden Smokestack Replica** – Anti-graffiti coating was applied and staging removed from around stack. Waiting to install lighting. Sign should be in soon, DPW will be pouring the concrete. Due to expenses, the mayor was contacted to see if the City could provide funds, and since it is a one-time cost; the mayor is considering it.

**Preservation Awards** – 2019 awards will be held in May 2021 along with the 2020 awards. Jeff Dimarzio was suggested for his work on the smokestack replica. Derek Corsi (and Parks & Forestry) were also considered.

**Depot Canopy** – MBTA will not be doing repairs this year. It continues to deteriorate and Brian F. will reach out to see if there is recourse.

**Donation Form** – previous question posed: Are we exempt from the City process of disposing of AHC property? Brian F. checking with Councilor Sara-Lynn Reynolds.

**Academy Grant Meeting** – MPPF grant was lost due to cost of bids.

**Postcards** – Chris will look into the cost selling cards online.

**S. Main Street Arch** – no response regarding the type of mortar being used.

**Evelyn Silva Gallery (Hill-Roberts Elem)** – Bob Mangiarotti will be the next artist when the school is ready for them to be installed.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Membership** – Marian has received the list of updated Regular and Alternate Members. There are still Alternate spots available.

**1131 Oak Hill Ave** – demolition possible. Next to Briggs Corner Pizzeria. Needs to add a larger septic system for restaurant and is also adjacent to wetlands which is presenting challenges for the location of the septic. Brian F. and Marian met with owner to see property and discuss options. Some issues already with Conservation Commission and restrictions.

**Gardner Terrace (Makepeace factory) & Hebron Mill** – small group of committee members toured the exteriors of the buildings with architect from The Architectural Team (TAT). We will send some historic photos of exterior and windows.

## CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION

PAL completed a survey for NE Power company that will have no impact on historical resources.

PAL completed National Register nomination for Watson-Newell building, will be presented to NR review board in November.

*Preservation Magazine* Spring 2020 issue has an article that includes Watson-Newell Project.

464 Newport Avenue is under contract. Do not want to demolish.

222 N. Main Street “milk shed” will be moved by Gary Demers.

Joe Murphy is concerned about change in AHS logo; Marian is going to send a letter to Principal Bill Runey in support of keeping the Bombardier name.

Chris created a Google “My Map” with the locations with all of the sites in the Attleboro Historic Site Guide marked. He hopes to add photos.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=en&ll=41.93667403485454%2C-71.29386088573263&z=14&mid=1mnTMwsva5HFV0uL4GW-VB7jJKZhmwukc>

Next Meeting – TBD (will ask AAIM if we can meet there)

Adjournment – 7:02 PM