

Wayland Historic District Commission
June 8, 2023
Wayland Town Building

WHDC members present: Gretchen Schuler (presiding), Margery Baston, Alice Boelter, Desmond McAuley

Others present: Andy Moore, representing the Wayland Library

Public comment. There was none.

Minutes of April 20, 2023. Desmond made a motion to approve, and Margery seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. (4-0-0)

7:05 Public Hearing: Along Rail Trail Facing Library - Install Bench on Concrete Pad.

- a. Library proposes to install a bench next to the Rail Trail.

Gretchen explained that the land where the bench is proposed to be located is owned by Eversource, however, the application should go through DCR, and Paul Jahnige is the person who oversees the development of rail trails for the state of Massachusetts. It was recommended that Andy Moore contact paul.jahnige@state.ma.us.

The bench is intended to be in memory of Philip Schneider, and his name would be on a plaque on the top slat on the back. The location is in the Historic District but not on town land. All members of the HDC liked the concept of having this bench at this particular location. Desmond expressed one hesitation - that the rail trail expansion plan might require that all benches be similar along the rail trail. After further discussion, Desmond motioned to approve the application pending any other required approvals or permits. Margery seconded this motion and it received a unanimous, favorable vote (4-0-0)

Informal discussion of steps added to Freight House on south side

A photo of the steps had been distributed before the meeting, and print copies were also available. There were a number of concerns the HDC members had with the stairs - they were not the width of the door opening, the last step was significantly higher than the others, and the color did not match the building. A letter will be sent to DPW listing these concerns and urging DPW to submit an application for stairs to the Freight House.

Elect a Temporary Chair (until a new commission is constituted)

Gretchen Schuler's term on the HDC ends with this meeting, as does the term for Alice Boelter. The Selectmen have the names of two realtors, and they need to interview and select one to serve on the HDC. There was some discussion of others who may be willing to serve on the HDC.

Items not reasonably known to the Chair 48 hours prior to the meeting.

The Historical Commission wrote to the HDC about the high-tension tower #113 that is within the granite foundation of the railroad turntable. An HDC letter will be sent urging that great care be taken when EverSource removes Tower #113 (to replace it with a mono-tower).

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margery Baston