



TOWN OF WHATELY Whately, Massachusetts

Historical Commission

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MINUTES WHATELY HISTORICAL COMMISSION April 19, 2021

The Zoom meeting was called to order by Donna Wiley at 5:05 pm.

Present: Donna Wiley (Chair), Susan Baron, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle, Allison Bell (New Member)

Agenda:

1. The minutes of the March 15 meeting were approved by those present (New member Allison Bell was not present for that meeting).
2. Sovereign Builders Storage Unit Project. The proposed buildings are located on the east side of State Road (Route 5), opposite Tom's Hot Dog Stand. The commission examined the plans and description of the proposed project. No historical sensitivity was noted. Donna will send the usual letter with the stipulation that should archaeological material (historic or prehistoric) be found, work must stop and the Historical Commission informed.
3. The construction of the Whately Water System pump house building was briefly discussed. Our interest in a building that generally fits with surrounding Whately structures was expressed. We will discuss this issue further at our next meeting with plans expected to be provided by the builder. Some issues of fencing and possible prehistoric presence were mentioned.
4. Scenic Spaces and Unique Environments Map.
Several issues about the map were raised and discussed at some length.
 - a. The list of farms was incomplete. They should be removed from the map and presented as an appendix based on the official list of farms in the town.
 - b. Historical Soc should be removed from the Milk Bottle listing.
 - c. Historical Resources list should be labelled **Historic Resources**.
 - d. 18th Century Restoration should be removed from Historic Resources list. This is a sign for Michael Denehy's business. His house was built in about 1830.
 - e. The Yellow Tobacco Barn at the Center Cemetery should be added to the Historic Resources list.
 - f. Schools should be added to the list of Historic Resources especially the Center School and the East Street Schools.
 - g. Quonquont Farm buildings should be added to the Historic Resources list.
 - h. Add the Whately Diner and Whately Inn to the list of Historic Resources.

- i. Add the 3 Wildlife Management Areas to the map
 - j. The map legend should not include Future Historic Districts Future Scenic Roads. Poplar Hill, Strippe and Webber Roads should be included instead of Future Scenic Roads.
 - k. Add the view from North Street entrance to the Great Swamp looking east.
5. Hidden history Project – discussion was postponed until the next scheduled Historical Commission meeting
 6. Additional items: No additional items were presented.
 7. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.
 8. The next meeting will be Monday, May 3 , 5:00 pm, using Zoom.