

COMMON COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING #1, 11/09/09

Those present; James Allen, Jennifer Cipro, Barbara Clancy, Ron Couture, Jean Lytle, Peter Masuzzo, Kathleen Wild. (Dick Spence, unable to attend)

Selectman, Jim Allen met with newly appointed members and called the meeting to order promptly at 7pm.

He discussed the need to have a committee to review issues that affect the Common; roadways, sidewalks, curbs, trees, benches, responsibilities, its use and the preservation of its historic integrity and adjoining neighborhoods.

He then asked the members present to elect a chair and someone to take notes or produce minutes.

Kathleen Wild was duly elected chair by unanimous vote of those present.

Ron Couture volunteered to take notes/minutes.

Kathleen suggested that perhaps we should all meet to address the Common issues by walking the Common.

We agreed to meet on Saturday, Nov 14 at 10am to address some of the issues;

- 1, proposed removal of greenspace & sidewalk space for parking at head of Common on Lincoln Street
2. Proposed improvements to Common Street that may esthetically impact historical landscape

Other important items include;

Peter will check on Jeppson Grant purpose and funds.

Ron will request Common Preservation Manual from National Trust for Historic Preservation, field office/Worcester.

A report from the Committee to the BOS by Tuesday Nov 17 as per review of proposals at CDS Meeting

Submitted by Ron Couture, 11/12/09

NEXT MEETING - DEC 21, Elementary School, 7pm

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BANNISTER COMMON & MALL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Dec 21, 2009, 7pm at BES

Present,

Kathleen Wild, Chairperson
Diane Oliver-Jensen
Peter Masuzzo

Kris Casucci
Jeanne Lytle
Ron Couture

1. Accepted Minutes of 11/9/09
2. Kathleen recapped field site meeting of 11/23/09 w/ highway & water depts and J. Allen, select rep.

Reviewed past determinations of need for arborist report, and discussed use of granite curbs, road width and retaining green space on south end.

Discussed letter from Common Street residents and their concerns about curbing, trees and drainage. Impact on proposed business.

Peter voiced concern about damaged granite curbing and need for town to get proper equipment. Ron suggested granite hitching post in areas to protect curb ends from plows or as signals to where crosswalks are.

Kathleen will report these in writing to selectmen office and we will all attend next CDBG meeting before public hearing.

3. Discussed possible names for committee and determined that we would be named the Bannister Common & Mall Committee in keeping with the NR Historic District designation of area. Our main concentration at this time would be the common & mall area, but would include more of the district if it impacted the common & mall. Discussed responsibilities, Kathleen will organize list of them and email us before next meeting.

Motion for name by Jeanne Lytle, 2nd Kris Casucci. Accepted unanimously.

4. Discussed handout from DCR Massachusetts as guide to help understand possible approaches that can be taken in preserving our common & mall area. Ron will contact PreservationMass to see if we can have a "Circuit Rider" come to speak at a joint meeting, date to be determined.

5. Discussed need for budget. Money for consultation, RFP ads, mailings & office expenses. Proposed budget of \$5,000. Kathleen will send to BOS. Committee will meet w/Advisory Board or BOS if needed to review.

Motion for budget by Peter Masuzzo, 2nd Kris Casucci. Accepted unanimously.

6. Next meeting dates were determined to be 1st Mondays of each month. Feb 1, March 1, April 5, May 3. All at 6:30pm

Submitted by Ron Couture, 12/21/09

PS. I need Diane's email address. Please let me know.