

SUDBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Monday, November 5th, 2018

Those present: Chris Hagger, Lyn MacLean, Fred Bautze, Jan Costa, Bill Johnson Guests: Marjorie Katz, Mike Melnick, Elaine Jones and Keith Funston

The first order of business was to have a discussion with a potential new member of the Sudbury Historical Commission (SHC) – Marjorie Katz. Marjorie discussed her background, her volunteer support as a docent at the Hosmer House and her strong interest in Sudbury's history. Each SHC member asked Marjorie questions related to her interest in becoming a member of the SHC. The Chair reviewed overall SHC responsibilities in addition to the Hosmer House functions. Marjorie was given the opportunity to ask questions of the current SHC members.

The next order of business was a meeting with members of the Sudbury Permanent Building Committee (PBC) regarding ongoing construction at the Loring Parsonage. The SHC expressed concern over recent removal of early floor beams (joists and sills) underneath the back right hand corner of the first floor of the main building that represents the early construction techniques used at Loring. The SHC also expressed an interest to discuss ways that both the SHC and PBC could work together going forward so that the SHC would have adequate notice of any potential for changes, destruction, and/or removal of any elements of the interior or exterior of the building structure. The SHC Chair explained the responsibility that the SHC has over Town owned historical assets. Mike Melnick, the PBC Cochair, explained that structural repairs required complete removal of the historic rafters and sill. Mike also informed the SHC that most of the interior doors have been removed and placed in storage at the Carding Mill so the door openings can be enlarged for ADA purposes. These historic doors will not be used as larger modern replacement doors will be used. Mike also confirmed that the historic door frame trim wood has been removed and disposed of. The SHC was very disappointed to learn of the historical impact of these decisions regarding the joists and sills, doors and door frames at Loring. It was also learned that there is no intent to reuse the historic door hardware from the doors which have been removed. The SHC asked if compliance with the requirements of the ADA was the reason why the joists and sills were removed.

The following was agreed to by both commissions:

- Replacement trim for the new door openings would be milled to match the existing trim around the doors in place prior to the construction on either side of the front door hallway
- The floor joists and sill which have been removed from underneath the back right hand corner of the first floor room of the main Loring Parsonage building will be labeled, numbered, documented, and photographed in the original positions, not be cut up, and will be stored at this point in time in the Carding Mill
- The original chair rail returns at the interior door openings will be saved and put back after the door openings are widened

- The PBC will provide the contact info to the SHC for their PT preservation specialist/site project manager (Mary Bulso) so the SHC could arrange to meet with her at the Loring construction site and to schedule a walk-through of the interior of the Loring Parsonage
- Two members of the SHC will attend the meeting between the PBC and the architect/construction contractor on Thursday, Nov. 15th, 2018 at 10am at the Flynn Building to discuss the doorway design, replacement trim and reuse of door hardware
- The PBC will alert the SHC in advance to enable the SHC to give guidance in advance of PBC decisions/actions concerning any proposed plans to remove interior wall sections of the Loring Parsonage to reveal early building construction techniques or artifacts.
- The PBC will alert the SHC in advance to enable the SHC to give guidance in advance if there will be any changes, destruction, and/or removal of any elements of the architectural fabric of the interior or exterior of the Loring building structure.

It was agreed that the SHC would put this in writing to the PBC.

On October 29, 2018, Diana attended a Sudbury Planning & Community Development meeting with the proponents of the 554 Boston Post Road proposed development. She learned that the property owner has developed two plans: a redesigned mini-storage building using the Stone Tavern house building as an office with the c.1850 barn either being (A) removed or (B) moved to the front of the lot forward of the tavern.

Chris informed the SHC that the historic property once lived in by Sudbury's Town Clerk at 59 Dudley Road has apparently been demolished and a large new house is being constructed. This property came before the SHC in 2015 when a previous property owner was considering demolition. It was agreed that the SHC would contact the Sudbury building inspector to understand why a building demolition permit for this property had not come to our attention.

There was a discussion regarding the Hosmer House phones not working properly. It appears that the problem has been fixed.

The SHC database staff person (Steph) had requested SHC guidance on preservation of the HH photos which she is cataloging. It was agreed that she should purchase materials up to \$250 to allow proper preservation storage of all the HH photos. If additional funds are needed, Steph should reach out to the SHC for further guidance.

Chris shared with the SHC an update on his recent presentation of the history of the Henry Ford Carding Mill to the Sudbury Historical Society . He also mentioned that additional information had been given to him regarding the needed repairs to the Carding Mill Dam which were not as extensive as we had been led to believe. Chris will look into this and report back at a later meeting.

Diana updated the SHC on the Ford Tunnel correspondence from the SHC to the State DOT, Town DPW and State elected officials regarding our request to have the State make repairs to the Ford Tunnel under Rt. 20 so it could remain safely open to the public.

Chris handed over to the SHC treasurer (Jan) the proceeds from recent donations received from the Wayside Inn Colonial Faire and the Wayside Inn.

Lyn reviewed the SHC member coverage for the HH Open House including the extended opening on Saturday, December 1st until 7pm. It was agreed to have a police detail from 4:30pm-9:00pm for the November 30th, Friday evening gathering at the HH.

List of Documents and other exhibits used at meeting: Copies of photographs of the floor joists and sill removed from the Loring Parsonage.