

Newburyport Historical Commission

February 13, 2019

Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Stephen Dodge called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Stephen Dodge, Glenn Richards, Christopher Fay and Ron Ziemba. Malcolm Carnwath, Ned McGrath and Sarah White were absent.

3. General Business

Ted Nelson

190 High Street

Preservation Restriction

The applicant requested an extension to the February 27 meeting.

Jerry Mullins

Gloria Braunhardt Bike/Pedestrian Trail Accessibility Upgrades

Section 106 Review

Jerry Mullins, President of the Parker River Clean Water Association, described the plans to improve the Gloria Braunhardt Bike Path. The path is the one accessible trail of the six trails running through the land over which the association has jurisdiction. The land to the west of the landfill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Primitive farm remains can be found in the area, which includes the Common Pasture. A \$50,000 grant has been obtained to upgrade the bike path, which is comprised of three lanes. The two outer lanes would be ground up and the land returned to its natural state. A grass berm would border the path to protect the wetlands from contaminants. Birch trees that overhang the path would be cut and their stumps left in place. Every effort would be made to disturb the ground as little as possible.

Glenn Richards moved to authorize the chair to write a letter stating the NHC supports the plan to improve the Gloria Braunhardt Bike Path and the project would not negatively impact the historic resources of the Common Pasture. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Minutes

Stephen Dodge moved to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019, meeting as submitted. Ron Ziemba seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Correspondence

26 Pleasant Street

Section 106 Review

A letter was received seeking comments on the potential impacts on historic resources of the

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proposed installation of a telecommunications facility.

6. Adjournment

Glenn Richards moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Ron Ziemba seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.