Bedford Depot Park Advisory Committee

Meeting of January 26, 2006

MINUTES

Committee members in attendance: Joseph Piantedosi (JP); Jim Shea (JS)

Ex-officio committee members in attendance: Angelo Colao (AC), Selectman liaison to Depot Park; Richard Jones (RJ), Facilities Director; Rick Reed (RR), Town Administrator; Richard Warrington (RW), DPW Director

Chairman JP called the meeting to order at 4:08 P.M. at Bedford Freight House, 120 South Road.

RJ provided an update on the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) grant application that he is preparing. He said that he’ll meet with Donald Corey and Robert Slechta of the Historic Preservation Commission to work on the final version. RJ’s feeling is that the proposed $15,000 grant request is sufficient. The final application is due at MHC on March 16, 2006.

JP said he will attend the Finance Committee meeting on February 2 about the Community Preservation Committee’s $10,000 funding request for the Depot architectural study.

RW gave an update about the Massachusetts Highway Department’s (MHD) bid advertising for the Freight House exterior work. He said that he met with Bedford’s building inspector to seek his approval of the architectural plans. The inspector focussed on the design’s ADA features and the grade between the rail car floor and the Freight House platform. RW said that MHD now has all the necessary documentation to proceed with the bid advertising. He expects it to occur any day.

JP suggested that an addendum to the plans be issued to relocate the Freight House electrical closet. This would provide a more efficient use of interior space, he explained.

RW said that the rail car’s refurbished seats, radiator covers and baggage rack brackets are ready for pick up from Fast Track. He will check into renting a box truck to transport the items to Bedford. Electrical work is the next scheduled next phase of the project. RW distributed a financial report on rail car expenditures to date.

RJ reported that the Depot Park Revolving Fund balance was $64,161.90 as of January 6, 2006.

RJ said that he and RR met with Depot tenant Donald Varney prior to today’s meeting. They discussed payment of back rent and removal of tenant property from an unauthorized area of the building. JP proposed that there be a letter of agreement between the Town and the tenant. RJ said he will draft a memo of understanding.

JS provided a summary of the January 24 Planning Board meeting that he attended about a proposed mixed-use bylaw for the Depot Park area.

RR said he will be away for the March 15 committee meeting.

RW reported at an automobile collided with several fixtures in front of the Freight House on January 20. One granite bollard was knocked down, one bollard was loosened, an electric light’s
globe and bulb were shattered, and one of the new traffic signals was destroyed.

JS made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 18 meeting. JP seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

At 5:28 P.M., JP made a motion to adjourn the meeting. JS seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Submitted by

Jim Shea, Clerk
These minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the committee at its meeting of February 22, 2006.