Meeting of June 28, 2013

M I N U T E S

Committee members in attendance: John Peterson; Jim Shea (JS)
Committee members not in attendance: Joseph Piantedosi
Others in attendance: Donald Corey, Historic Preservation Commission; David Cerundolo, owner of 54 Loomis Street; Richard Tambone, Tambone Investment Group, business partner

At 3:08 P.M., JS made a motion to elect John Peterson chair pro-tem in the absence of Joseph Piantedosi. John Peterson seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote. John Peterson called the meeting to order at 3:09 P.M.

John Peterson introduced Donald Corey to discuss the existing easement area on the eastern side of the Depot. Mr. Corey spoke about an anticipated Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) grant award and planned improvements to the Depot exterior. He expressed concern about the proposed location of a trash dumpster adjacent to the Depot as part of the 54 Loomis Street project. He feels the dumpster’s location would detract from the Depot’s appearance and be incompatible with a state grant to improve the building’s facade.

Richard Tambone distributed copies of site plans that show the existing easement area. The committee discussed the proposed walkway through the easement area. Mr. Tambone stated that the Planning Board desired a connection between the Minuteman Bikeway and the Narrow-Gauge Rail-Trail through 54 Loomis Street. A walkway through the easement area accomplishes this goal, he explained. Mr. Tambone noted that the property owner will maintain the landscaping on the Town’s easement, and a decorative enclosure is to be placed around the dumpster. David Cerundolo added that the dumpster will be surrounded by a fence and landscaping, and that this dumpster can be utilized by Depot Park users.

John Peterson suggested moving the dumpster’s location to one of the 54 Loomis Street parking spaces. Mr. Tambone made a phone call to his architect, Eugene Sullivan, to inquire whether it is possible to move the dumpster to the southern end of the parking lot. He conveyed that the architect believes there is a way to accomplish this objective. Mr. Tambone said he will have a revised plan made that shows this change. Mr. Cerundolo commented he always has intended that his project be true to the purpose of the Depot easement.

JS inquired whether the large tree next to the Depot would be removed. Mr. Cerundolo answered that the site plan shows the tree will be removed. He said that a landscape plan is to be created.
After he spoke with Planning Director Glenn Garber, John Peterson said that changes to the site plan can be achieved administratively rather than through a formal process. Mr. Garber requested a letter from the committee that states these three points:

- The proposed changes to the easement area’s layout are more compatible with the Depot Park environment and with issues related to the Massachusetts Historical Commission grant award.
- The proposed changes result in a visible improvement.
- The relocated sidewalk will be connected with the existing walkway and a future ramp behind the Depot.

David Cerundolo and Richard Tamboni left the meeting at 3:58 P.M.

Donald Corey discussed the MHC grant award and the scope of work that this grant would cover, which does not include an accessible restroom. He said the committee could request funds from the Historic Properties Stabilization Fund for the restroom. The committee discussed project deadlines and holding a meeting prior to July 11 to discuss the scope of the project.

John Peterson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 4/22/13. JS seconded the motion. It passed by a vote of 2-0-0. John Peterson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 5/10/13. JS seconded the motion. It passed by a vote of 2-0-0.

JS provided an update on the Freight House replacement front door and card reader. The Facilities Department has painted the new door, but so far it has been unsuccessful programming the electronic lock.

Mr. Corey and JS proposed that the next meeting occur on Monday, July 8, at 3:00 P.M.

John Peterson remarked that this is his last meeting as a committee member. He expressed that the committee is performing important work for the betterment of Bedford. He offered to continue helping the committee in an unofficial capacity. JS thanked John for his contributions to the committee.

JS made a motion to adjourn at 4:47 P.M. John Peterson seconded the motion, and it passed by a unanimous vote.

Submitted by:

Jim Shea, Clerk

These minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee at its meeting of 9/05/13.

Documents and other exhibits used at this meeting:

- Meeting agenda, dated 6/28/13
- 54 Loomis Street site plans