

Town of Sutton
Historic Commission Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2023

Meeting Started at 7:05 p.m. via Hybrid

Members Present:

Keith Downer – Chairman

Mark Brown – Clerk

Paul Dunn – Member

Rochelle Forsythe – Member (Remote)

Donna Rossio – Member (Remote)

Members Absent:

Christopher Leary – Member

Review and Approve Minutes:

January 31, 2023 minutes were approved by vote. Vote carried a yes, by all voting members present, D. Rossio & P. Dunn abstained as had not reviewed or were not present at the January meeting.

Public Forum: None.

Public Hearing: None.

Board Business:

Center Overlay District - K. Downer has requested the Town Planning Board to extend the the existing Center Overlay District (which contains Polly's Antiques and the now removed "Beehive" building) to in his home (334 Boston Rd.) as well as 322 and 324 Boston Rd. (neighbors that we also interested in being included).

K. Downer read the letter that was submitted to the town. M. Brown requested and received a copy which he will keep with the minutes for this meeting. K. Downer recused himself from the boards discussion to avoid any potential conflict of interested. M. Brown chaired the remainder of the board's discussion of this topic.

P. Dunn had no comments, but hopes that the extension might offer the added properties more protection then the "Beehive" received. D. Rossio suggests that Historic Commission vote to possibly co-sponsor the extension with the Planning Board. R. Forsythe no comments, but, agreed with P. Dunn's "Beehive" comment.

K. Downer responds to D. Rossio: Co-sponsorship may make sense, but, need to wait for a Planning Board decision to consider the expansion first. He also clarifies the retail use types allowed under the Overlay as well as the ones allowed via Special Permit. The intent of the Overlay District is to preserve the town center's character by limiting the types of businesses as well as there outward appearance to match the existing properties stylistically.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

K. Downer received correspondence from MA DOT in reference to Bridge replacement: BRS-33-002, Manchaug Rd over the Mumford River. The letter states due to the bridges location within a Historic District, their intent is to work with consultants to insure the replacement bridge compliments the area. The letter goes on to solicit comments from the Historic Commission with regards to this project. K. Downer went to the

bridge location and noticed several markings for wetlands and boundaries had been placed in the area. On the MA DOT site he discovered that the replacement project was approved in 2020.

P. Dunn asks if this bridge could be replaced with a wooden covered bridge? K. Downer states that this has been raised with the State and they as yet have not ruled it out, but, still to soon to comment.

R. Forsythe asks if this is connected with the Manchaug flood zone plans for that area? K. Downer responds that there may be an alteration of the water falls to allow the Mumford river to flow freely, but, nothing as yet has come before the Board. It seems that the markings noted by K. Downer may be related to the Flood Plans vs the bridge replacement.

D. Rossio ask about the dams ownership. K. Downer will look into it. He also asks that R. Forsythe keep the Board informed on any upcoming developments/meetings related to the Manchaug Flood Plans.

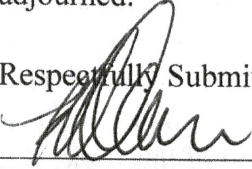
Announcements / Correspondence:

K. Downer sent out the information requested (and discussed last meeting) for the Town of Sutton Annual Report. P. Dunn had no comments. M. Brown asked for some clarifications to which K. Downer responded. No further comments from D. Rossio or R. Forsythe. K. Downer will submit to the Town Clerk.

K. Downer comments on the information received from D. Rossio on an upcoming meeting by the Massachusetts Historic Commission on the reuse of building materials/elements, Deconstruction vs Demolition. Deconstruction uses trained professionals to take apart buildings scheduled for demolition in a manner that preserves any reusable/resalable parts and materials. Much more environmentally friendly. K. Downer has signed up for the next meeting.

* A motion to adjourn was made by P. Dunn and seconded by R. Forsythe at 7:51p.m., it was carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

 3-28-23
Keith Downer, Chair