

Lincoln Historical Commission
Historic District Commission
Brown's Wood Historic District Commission
Virtual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Board Members: Andrew Glass, Chair, HDC/LHC/BWHDC; Doug Adams, HDC/LHC/BWHDC; Robert Domnitz, HDC/BWHDC; Christopher Boit, HDC/LHC/BWHDC

Alternates: Frank Clark, HDC/LHC/BWHDC; Allen Vander Meulen, HDC/LHC/BWHDC

(Members unavailable: Andy Ory, HDC/HC/BWHDC; Gary Anderson, HDC/LHC/BWHDC; Lynn Delisi, HDC/BWHDE; Judith Lawler, Alternate, HDC/LHC/BWHDC)

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 3, 2021, at 7:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission:

Certificates of Appropriateness:

17 Weston Road:

Victoria Otis, Director of the Pierce House, came before the Historic District Commission (HDC) for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a wrought iron handrail at the left-hand side of the exterior stairs ascending to the porch outside of the first-floor restrooms. Ms. Otis noted that the proposed railing provide for easier access to these restrooms. The proposed railing would match the railing in the photos presented to the HDC. Frank Clark made a motion to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a wrought iron handrail on the left-hand side of the stairs ascending to the porch outside of the first-floor restrooms as shown in the photos and other materials presented to the HDC, subject to the HDC's approval of the manufacturer's shop drawings before the actual installation of the handrail. Allen Vander Meulen seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

28 Lincoln Road:

Lis Herbert, owner, came before the HDC for a Certificate of Appropriateness regarding a number of proposed projects. First, Ms. Herbert noted that the side porch needed repair the flooring, joists, and railing. Ms. Herbert would like permission to turn the lattice to run at parallel and perpendicular to the railing rather than at 45 degrees to the railing.

Second, Ms. Herbert proposed installing a 40" high open-rail type cedar fence along at the street side of the front yard, reaching from the driveway to the property line with the Creel residence. The proposed fence would have two gates: one in the middle for access to the walkway to the front door of the house, and one near the property line with the Creel residence to allow access for small equipment such as a lawn tractor to fit through. The fence is in the style of Blackberry Farm, as shown in the photos presented to the HDC.

Third, Ms. Herbert proposed removing the existing greenhouse at the back of the house, which is a later addition to the house and is in poor repair, and the large kitchen window at the back of the house, which is a later addition to the house. Ms. Herbert proposed replacing the greenhouse and kitchen window with 1920s mahogany casement windows. The exterior the cladding at the lower level of the house would match the existing cladding.

Frank Clark made a motion to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to (1) repair the side porch rotating the lattice as proposed; (2) install a cedar fence as proposed subject to the setback from the street as may be required by the Building Inspector; (3) replace the existing kitchen window with the casement windows as proposed; and (4) demolish the existing greenhouse and replace it with casement windows and cladding as proposed. Doug Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

Pavement Preservation and Related Work, State Route 2A:

Select Board Member Jonathan Dwyer came before the Lincoln Historical Commission (LHC) to provide background on the status of the Route 2A repaving and roadwork project in response to a letter that the MassDOT sent to the LHC soliciting comments regarding the proposed project. Mr. Dwyer noted that the Town is interested in reducing vehicular speed on Route 2A, increasing safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and preserving the rural character of the corridor in the Minuteman National Historical Park. Mr. Dwyer outlined the proposed crosswalks, road shoulder widths, and guard rails. The Select Board has submitted a letter to the MassDOT emphasizing these points.

Mr. Glass thanked Mr. Dwyer and noted that his presentation was very helpful to the LHC in formulating a response to the MassDOT. Mr. Domnitz suggested that in a response to the MassDOT, the LHC might note that the state has designated the Route 2A corridor as a scenic highway and that the federal government has designated the corridor as an all-American road because of its historic and cultural significance. Doug Adams made a motion to authorize Andrew Glass to prepare a response to MassDOT. Christopher Boit seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

Mr. Glass also noted that the LHC had also received a letter from Commonwealth Engineers & Consultants on behalf of the MassDOT soliciting comments from the LHC regarding the replacement of the bridge at Concord Road over the MBTA railroad tracks. Mr. Glass proposed making the state aware that this area was the site of the railroad stop associated with Charles Francis Adams's purchase of the Burnham Estate at Baker Farm. Allen Vander Meulen made a motion to authorize Andrew Glass to prepare a response to Commonwealth Engineers. Doug Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

1911 Map of Adams Farm:

Mr. Glass said the Conservation Commission had contacted the Friends of Modern Architecture/Lincoln (FoMA) regarding a 1911 map that Charles Francis Adams had commissioned of his estate and farm. The map carefully documents the roadways, walls, wood lots, and farmed areas, and notes their relation to the natural topography. It represents an early stage of one of Lincoln's major land conservation projects, namely John Quincy Adams' later development of the estate into the Old Concord Road neighborhood. FoMA has had an ongoing interest in the Old Concord Road neighborhood because of the many Modern houses build there. Quincy Adams relied on this kind of documentary work to understand the importance of preserving the open space and pathways of the estate when he subdivided the land beginning in the late 1930s. Joe Robbat of FoMA has requested that the HDC act as a Town sponsor, along with the Conservation Commission and the Library, of FoMA's application to the Community Preservation Committee for Community Preservation Act funds to conserve the map. Mr. Glass noted that Mr. Robbat had consulted with the Town Archivist Virginia Rundell, the Director of the Library Bobbie Myles, and the Director of Conservation Department Michele Grzenda about the best manner in which to conserve the map and make copies for Town use. The total cost for doing so is approximately \$7,000. FoMA is also applying to private sources such as the Codman Trust for some of the funds. Christopher Boit made a motion that the HDC agree to act as a co-sponsor to the CPC to pay for CPA funds for the preservation of the 1911 map of the Adams property. Doug Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher

Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

Report on Annual Visit to the Wheeler Farm, 61 Bedford Road:

Mr. Glass thank Christopher and Kate Boit for opening their beautiful house and garden for the annual preservation restriction agreement inspection of the Wheeler Farm property. Doug Adams prepared the report for the LHC, noting the presence of the Boits' 1820 replica of the Declaration of Independence that Mr. Boit inherited from a his father's estate. The report indicates that the house and grounds are in excellent condition. Frank Clark made a motion that the LHC and HDC adopt the report prepared by Doug Adams of the 2021 annual preservation restriction agreement inspection of the Wheeler Farm property. Allen Vander Meulen seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

Minutes:

Christopher Boit made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2021 meeting as amended. Doug Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

At 9:00 p.m., Frank Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boit-aye; Bob Domnitz-aye; Doug Adams-aye; Frank Clark-aye; Allen Vander Meulen-aye; Andrew Glass-aye.

Submitted by Elaine Carroll