

BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Monthly SHPO-FHWA-ACOE-NHDOT Cultural Resources Meeting

DATE OF CONFERENCES: May 2, 2013

LOCATION OF CONFERENCE: John O. Morton Building

ATTENDED BY:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| NHDOT | Brian Lynch | Jamie Sikora | Engineering |
| Sheila Charles | Nancy Spaulding | | Ventures |
| Michael Dugas | | NHDHR | Nik Fiore |
| Jill Edelmann | Federal Highway | Laura Black | |
| Amy Lamb | Administration | | |

(When viewing these minutes online, click on an attendee to send an e-mail)

PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS REVIEWED THIS MONTH:

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(When viewing these minutes online, click on a project to zoom to the minutes for that project)

May 2, 2013

Belmont 16202, X-A001(182)

Participants: Michael Dugas, Nancy Spaulding, Amy Lamb, NHDOT

This project was last reviewed at the July 12, 2012 Cultural Resources meeting. Pursuant to that meeting, it was determined that as long as trees would not be cleared in front of certain potentially-historic properties, the project was in full compliance of Section 106 and no historic properties would be affected. Since that time, tree clearing was added to the locations in question, warranting further review.

Amy Lamb provided a brief summary of the project, and described the additional tree clearing that was added to the project scope. Work consists of intersection and drainage improvements at the NH 140/Jamestown Road/South Road intersection. To accommodate the new left turn lanes and drainage ditches, two rows of trees would be cleared: one along the north side of NH 140, east of the intersection; and another on the south side of NH 140, west of the intersection. The trees on the northeast side are in front of a property built in 1950. The trees on the southwest side are in front of a property dating to 1978.

Laura Black advised that inventory forms be filled out for potentially-eligible buildings (>50 years old) to determine if any properties impacted by tree clearing are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Jill Edelmann explained that she would hire an architectural history consultant to complete the inventory forms.

L. Black went on to recommend that the Design team communicate with property owners about planned work, especially if homes are National Register-eligible.

Nancy Spaulding and Mike Dugas noted that several areas within the project limits have already been cleared, including a large area in the northwest quadrant of the intersection and along the south side of 140, east of the intersection.

N. Spaulding repeated that the clearing planned for this project would be along Parcel 10 in the northeast quadrant and Parcel 5 in the southeast quadrant, as indicated on the engineering plans. A. Lamb indicated that Parcel 10 was built in 1950, and Parcel 5 was built in 1978. (This was confirmed after the meeting).

N. Spaulding asked for an explanation of how the Section 106 process works. L. Black explained that after a historic property is identified within the limits of a project, Section 106 procedure involves finding ways to first avoid impacts to said historic property, then minimize impacts if they can not be avoided, and finally mitigate any adverse affects.

J. Edelmann stated that she would contact a consultant and keep the design team informed as buildings were inventoried for National Register eligibility.

May 9, 2013

Hanover 68045B (No NHDOT or Federal Number)

Participant: Nik Fiore, Engineering Ventures

Initial consultation on Hanover Mobility Hub (NHDOT grant NH-04-0003).

L Black gave a brief overview of how the Section 106 process works and what it looks for. She explained that it looks at things as they are now and that properties are treated the same whether they are actually listed or simply eligible for listing.

Wheelock Street District – L Black explained that there is an existing Wheelock Street Historic District and the files indicate that it is located south of Wheelock Street and west of Main Street, but the actual boundaries are unclear. She would like the project to provide a better understanding of the district's boundaries.

Dartmouth College Historic District – L Black asked if a historic district exists for Dartmouth College campus and would like a consensus on what contributes and what does not. She recommended completing a Historic District Area Form, or hybrid version thereof, to gain a holistic understanding of the campus with a more involved look at the buildings within the Area of Potential Effect.

Hopkins Center – L Black recommended an Individual Inventory Form for Hopkins Center. The DOT's files contain a photograph of the new constructed Hopkins Center, which includes a plaza

between the building and Wheelock Street. L Black would like the Individual Inventory Form to address the significance of the plaza on the original design.

Funding – The Cultural Resources Staff asked for a clearer definition of where the funding is coming from. N Fiore stated that it was coming from FTA (Federal Transit Authority) and he would find out if there is a more specific program that is the source of the funding

Plans – N Fiore presented the conceptual site plan drawn by OWR Landscape Architects and Planners and explained that a number of details still needed to be worked out. L Black stated she will need to see actual design plans in order to determine complete her review

Public Involvement – Reviewers recommended additional public involvement with the inclusion of Hanover’s Planning Commission, Historical Society, and other similar bodies. N Fiore states that the conceptual design had been subject to public comments and that public input will continue likely through Board of Selectmen’s meetings

****Memos/MOA’s:**

Submitted by: Sheila Charles and Jill Edlmann, Cultural Resources

<http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/environment/units/program-management/crmeetings.htm>