

**Northfield Historical Commission**  
**69 Main Street**  
**Northfield Massachusetts**  
**Minutes March 29, 2017**

**Present:** Don Campbell, Sue Ross, Joe Graveline, and Lisa McLoughlin.

**Absent:** Robert Hall, Carol Lebo, Joan Stoia

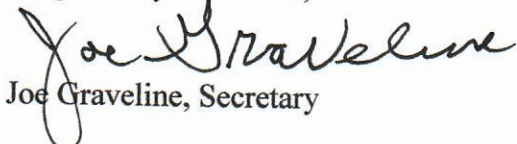
5:01 pm Sue calls the meeting to order.

Lis shows the board 4 letters from the Nipmuck, Wampanoag, MHC, U-Mass Archaeological, and MHC letter on Ames property. Board discusses the process used by the Northfield ZBA to accept any documents to add to the file on the Browning Special Permit hearing. Board agrees to forward to the ZBA these letters and documents for the files of that SP process. The board reviews the process commonly used to notify the Massachusetts Historical Commission when a historically sensitive property is going to have a project pull a permit. The process used many times in the past is to notify the MHC with a Notice of Intent (NOI) prior to starting to build and MHC will review their files on the property and make recommendations to the contractor or builder and the owner of what they are concerned about and how best to mitigate any unnecessary damage to any historical resources. The board agrees to request the ZBA add a condition requiring a NOI be sent to MHC in a timely fashion prior to starting the project. **Motion:** Joe: ask the ZBA that a NOI be a part of the conditions in the Browning SP process sent to MHC in a timely fashion prior to ground breaking and that all documents and letters we have received by concerned parties be submitted to the ZBA to be a part of the Permanent files. Second: Don: discussion none Vote: unanimous pass.

The board discussed how important what Sam Browning Jr. is doing for the town and also about the family keeping the land together at this time. We discussed what our role is in the community and felt that might need to be pointed out to the ZBA to offer them a better understanding of how we serve the town. Discussion of open meeting problem with last ZBA meeting and how do we find a solution to guarantee we won't be kept out of the open meeting process with the ZBA in the future. We further discussed our obligations under Chapter 40 section 8d and the fact that most town boards and citizens don't understand what that looks like. The board agreed the Browning family needs support and we don't want to stop the building, just would like to see it moved to a less sensitive area.

6:01 pm Sue suggests to close meeting Don: **Motion to close meeting** Joe: second no discussion vote: unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joe Graveline, Secretary

May 8, 2017