Heritage Commission Draft meeting minutes October 24, 2013

Ms. Powers began the meeting at 7:02 P.M.

Meeting was posted at Town Hall, Library and Website.

Members in Attendance:

Debby Powers Ernie Landry Bob Bean

Gail Ramsey Holly Ouellette (arrived with meeting in progress)

Dave Taylor Gary Finerty Charlette Boutin, HDC Representative

Excused Members: Walt Roy, George Korn, Ellen Faulconer, Jane Christie

MM&S to accept the minutes with changes. (Motion by Ms. Powers, second by Bob Bean.)

Motion passed. Changes to minutes were -

Under Archive System – eliminate "too large and too fat.....memory going....will be unuseable> Middle of page 2 – change "Budget Committee" to "Town"

Page 3, Para 5 – eliminate "Nobody keeps up with the Town Buildings for maintenance every year".

Eliminate information recorded after meeting adjourned.

Ms. Powers discussed the protocol for subcommittee meetings. Right-to Know laws require that when we plan to have a sub-committee meeting or other meeting where a quorum of members is expected it must be posted in advance.

Mr. Bean discussed progress on review of the Past Perfect database system. This will be an item in the Museum Task force 2014 budget. The Heritage Commission voted at the last meeting to support this effort but primarily for Museum Task Force use. It may also be used by the Heritage Commission or other Commissions later if it proves suitable for them.

Grace Daley House – Conserving the property will be an expensive proposition. The \$144,000 estimate provided by Bob Pothier was to basically stabilize the house, foundation, roof, etc. Based on the condition of the interior it could potentially cost another \$150,000 to make it suitable for useable market grade office space. NHPA recently toured the house and indicated that there are grant monies available for organizations to do feasibility studies for future uses of historic properties. Most often a match is required but there is a possibility for a fully funded

grant. Ms. Powers will contact NHPA. NHPA offered to send an announcement to members and preservations that Kingston is seeking partners to preserve the property. Ms. Powers sent a draft announcement to Selectman Korn to share with the Board. Debbie will meet with them on Monday, Oct. 28 to get their concurrence. Mr. Bean discussed the notion of also working with realtors who specialize in historic properties. Mr. Taylor suggested working with local realtors like Lynne Merrill.

Fundraising – Mr. Landry mentioned that Catherine Grant from the Selectmen's office is the person who receives donations to the Heritage Fund and sends receipts to the donor. There have been several donations so far. A number of fundraising items were discussed. We need to get an article in the papers about the Grace Daley House and the Heritage Fund. Need to identify future projects and try to target fundraising based on those projects. People will be more likely to contribute if they have a sense of where their money will be going. Other suggestions included approaching someone like Chronicle to get broader publicity for our efforts and the needs in Kingston, preparing a calendar for sale with pictures of historic buildings and their owners or donors, develop a handbook/brochure to help make owners of historic buildings of the resources available to assist them in their efforts. This could include info from town ordinances, listings of preservation organizations as well as contact information for the Heritage Commission.

Mr. Bean and Ms. Boutin informed the Commission about a project they are working on to update Kingston's history from 1994 to date. Very involved process that relies on individuals and organizations in town to provide information on key events, issues, etc. during the timeframe. This is a time and labor intensive process.

Next Meeting will be held at the Kingston Memorial Library on December 12, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

MM&S to adjourn. (Motion by Mr. Bean, Second by Ms. Boutin) Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Landry