

Town of Kingston Heritage Commission  
Public Meeting  
October 24, 2019 Minutes

**1. Meeting held in the Morse Room of the Kingston Community Library:**

**Call to order:** Vice Chair Ernie Landry called the 7:00 p.m. meeting to order

**Attendance** (quorum satisfied):

**Members:** Debra Powers, Chair - excused  
Ernie Landry, Vice-Chair - present  
Robert Bean - present  
Holly Ouellette - present  
Susan Prescott, HDC Representative - present  
Gail Ramsey - present  
Richard Wilson, BOS Representative - present  
Charlotte Boutin, Alternate - present  
Jane Christie, Alternate - present  
Eileen Clifford, Alternate - present  
Adam Faulconer, Alternate- excused  
Elaine VanDyke, Alternate - excused  
**Guest:** Leslie Randlett

- 2. Minutes from** the September 26, 2019 Meeting were accepted as read. However, a member who came in after the minutes were approved made note that she had a concern/correction to the minutes. In the paragraph on Federal/State Registry of Historic Places, we are changing the statement “The town has nothing listed on the National Register of Historic Places” to “The town has nothing listed on the State Register of Historic Places”
- 3. 2020 Planning:** we briefly reviewed a number of activities and projects to consider in preparation for further discussion at our next meeting. The list of *possibilities* includes (but is not limited to):
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant (to address concerns documented Envision Kingston II and the Town’s Master Plan) with regard to The Plains, sidewalks from the Bakie School to the Museum Complex, the intersection of Depot Road and Main St, and the traffic flow on streets surrounding The Plains. Applying for such a grant would involve getting specialized help and, if we were awarded a grant, getting approval for the town proportion (20%) of the project. Reminders: a) application process to the State of NH for a Tap grant is a multi-step process; b) the goal of the federally-funded TAP is to provide choices for non-motorized users that are safe, reliable, and convenient
  - Continue to apply for grants to obtain Programs (presentations) from the NH Humanities Council. NH Humanities “has been connecting people to culture, history, places, ideas and one another” for 45 years

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**3. 2020 Planning continued:**

- Continue our project to get the NH Community Revitalization Tax Incentive RSA 79-E adopted by the Town (Item #5 below). Assuming accepted by the town, determine and proceed with next steps (such as offering TBD support where we could in the application process)
- For Seacoast Heritage Groups – organize and hold an “all” day program. We started a list of possible discussion/presentation topics such as: Best Practices, Experiences of HCs
- Demolition Ordinance

**4. From NH Humanities, the Steve Taylor Poor House Presentation is scheduled for Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> at Town Hall: WIP! So far, looking good.**

- Snacks – Debby Powers, Gail Ramsey, and Liz Landry
- Handicap Elevator – Holly Ouellette
- Signs noting that there is a Handicap Entrance – Ernie Landry
- “Videoing” the program – Adam Faulconer (assuming that there are no issues with our a/v’ing the program)
- Opening the Town’s Tramp House (part of the Museum Complex) – Bob Bean will investigate

**5. Envision Kinston II Subcommittee update:**

**NH Community Revitalization Tax Incentive RSA 79-E:** the team is returning/presenting to the Board of Selectmen November 4<sup>th</sup>. Several team members, who had been away from the project, have commented on the great work (by the rest of the team) which has gone into refining and supplementing the presentation package. Our current task is to get support from the BOS in preparation to asking the town to vote to accept NH RSA 79-E in the 2020 Town Meeting/voting

**6. “Welcome to Kingston” Road Signs -** we have not yet noticed that any of the signs have been installed. Richard Wilson volunteered to check the status

**7. Documentation:**

- A. **Town History Book:** Bob Bean reported that 70% of the book has been written and is in the edit stage. Writing the remaining 30% is WIP. The team is targeting having printed books available for sale at Kingston Days 2020

Of the \$8,000 Fundraising Target for preparation and printing costs, \$2,500 has already been raised. The next phases of the funding strategy include a mailing campaign to a limited audience of about 250 possible donors and targeting business owners

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**7. Documentation continued:**

- B. Hanson House Documentation: the research phase is winding down
- C. Video tour of the Town is on hold until next year and the end of winter
- D. Documenting the Sanborn Seminary Building: TBA  
“Speaking” of the Seminary Building, Leslie Randlett reported seeing broken windows with birds flying in and out. Closer examination revealed dead birds inside. Richard Wilson volunteered to call the Town Health Department

**8. Fundraiser:** not discussed

**9. New Business:** discussed intermittingly under other topics

**10. BOS / Other Town Organizations – Updates:**

**HDC:** Susan Prescott reported that there is interest in putting a house on the vacant lot at #129 Main Street, which is in Historic District I. If the interest continues, the HDC will hold a public meeting

**BOS:** Richard Wilson reported on a meeting held here in Kingston on October 23 on PFA/PFOA contamination in Kingston drinking water at select sites. Richard also noted that as of October 01, 2019, the safe limits of these substances changed in NH (i.e.: The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) established Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)/drinking water standards and Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (AGQS) for four per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS): perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) and perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) to ensure greater protection of public health related to the consumption of drinking water).

**11. Next Meeting / Calendar/ Recorder-of-Next-Minutes:**

- the next Envision Kingston II Sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6 at the Town Hall
- the next HC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2019 at the Kingston Community Library at 7:00 p.m.; Eileen Clifford volunteered to record the minutes

**12. Meeting Adjourned:** 8:22 p.m. - motion made by Susan Prescott and seconded by Gail Ramsey

**Minutes Prepared by:** Eileen Clifford