

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020

Call to Order: Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 7:08. Identification of members present was made through roll call.

Members present:

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|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Bob Bean | Debra Powers | Virginia Morse (HDC Ex Officio) |
| Ernie Landry | Holly Ouellette | Eileen Clifford |
| Jane Christie (Alternate) | | |

Members absent: Richard Wilson, (BOS Ex Officio) Adam Faulconer (Alternate), Charlotte Boutin (Alternate)

October meeting minutes: Motion to accept made by Mr. Bean and seconded by Ms. Clifford. Roll call vote to accept minutes as submitted:

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|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. Bean - Yes | Ms. Powers - Yes | Ms. Clifford - Yes |
| Mr. Landry - Yes | Ms. Ouellette - Yes | Ms. Morse - Abstain |

Motion passed: Yes - 5, Abstain - 1

Updates:

Welcome Signs: All but one of the signs is in. We're still waiting on approval of one site on Exeter Rd. for the last sign.

Plains Cemetery National Register Application Status: Ms. Powers indicated that the project is progressing as scheduled. We will be setting up a Zoom meeting with the Preservation Company to discuss the status of the project and expenses related to it.

Grace Daley Barn Assessment Grant Application Status: The Chairman mentioned that we received verbal notification of approval. A grant agreement package was sent to the town by the NH Preservation Alliance (NHPA). It appears that no one has seen it at Town Hall so NHPA will send a new copy.

Facebook: There still doesn't appear to be a link to the Heritage Commission Facebook page from the Heritage Commission web page. People are still having difficulty trying to access the page. Mr. Landry and Mr. Bean will follow-up with Mr. Faulconer get this assistance in correcting the problem. The desire is to have a Facebook page that can be accessed from the Heritage Commission web page and which would allow only the heritage commission to post items.

Joint HC/HDC Meeting Reschedule:

Plans still call for a joint meeting to occur on January 12th. The meeting will be held from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM to allow the HDC to conduct their normal monthly meeting in the event they have applications to review. Ms. Powers and Mr. Bean shared a proposed agenda they have developed which is designed to elicit discussion between the groups regarding projects of common interest as well as information on projects specific to either group. Some minor editorial changes were recommended. Ms. Morse will share the draft with HDC at their next meeting and any additions by the HDC will be shared with Mr. Landry, Ms. Powers and Mr. Bean after the upcoming HDC meeting on Dec. 16th. There was some discussion around the differences in the missions of the HDC and HC with the HDC being an adjudicatory land use board and the HC being an advisory land use board.

Documentation: Mr. Bean provided an update on the Kingston History Book. The project is in the final design stage with all chapters gone into design by next week. The book will be approximately 750 pages in length and purchase price will be \$50. The History Book Committee is taking pre-orders. Books will be sold at Town Hall and the Kingston Community Library. The book is projected to be available in March of 2021 with no direct cost to the town for the project.

Fundraising: The group again discussed the stained glass window project. This will likely begin after the new year. The group briefly discussed the types of issues that will need to be addressed. It was noted that the windows are in a condition that will require complete disassembly, repair and reassembly. Ms. Morse believes she has a document that identifies the various publishing houses featured in the windows and will share it if located.

There was limited discussion of other types of fundraising with no specific plan developed.

Outreach/Publicity: Mr. Landry indicated that he has drafted an article for the Carriage Towne news regarding the repairs to the Nichols Building. He will share that with Ms. Powers for review before taking any further action. The group agreed that the article should include a picture, preferably one of the actual renovation work if possible.

The group discussed the notion of having a calendar of outreach/publicity. Mr. Landry gave a few examples of the types of things that might be appropriate and asked the members to think of possibilities and send them to him so he can compile a possible list of items for review and discussion at the next meeting.

New Business:

Possible Old Firehouse Building Assessment – Mr. Landry and Ms. Powers reported on a conversation they had with Beverly Thomas of the NHPA regarding a possible building assessment grant for the Old Firehouse Museum. The building is eligible for a NHPA grant. Ms. Thomas suggested that we should do a local assessment of the building needs, with photos, and send that material to her for review. After reviewing the material she would recommend what she believed to be the appropriate level of grant for which we should apply. The group agreed that it would be good to apply for a grant. There were no volunteers to lead the project. It was mentioned that it might be worthwhile waiting until spring to do the local assessment because potential snow, etc. might make the assessment difficult.

Archaeology – Mr. Landry mentioned The Historic and Cultural Resources Chapter to the Master Plan recommends that the Heritage Commission and the Conservation Commission work together to responsibly promote archaeological resources on town-owned land. He also mentioned that the Conservation Commission had a state archaeologist come to Kingston to demonstrate how to examine cellar holes and prepare documentation to be sent to the NH Division of Historic Resources for their review and recording in the files. The Conservation Commission asked for help from this group assist with the documentation. There was a brief discussion of our responsibility to participate with the Conservation Commission in this activity. Ms. Clifford volunteered to participate in this activity. There are a number of sites on town property.

Bandstand – Mr. Landry indicated that he has completed the annual LCHIP easement monitoring of the Bandstand and will be forwarding that report to LCHIP.

BOS/Other town organization updates:

Ms. Morse indicated that the HDC has a number of applications in process.

Next meeting: Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on January 28th at 7:00 PM via Zoom. The Joint HC/HDC meeting will be on January 12th at 5:30 PM via Zoom.

Adjournment: Having no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:46 PM.

Disclaimer: HC minutes are reviewed and approved (with or without amendments) at the next HC meeting. The original minutes are posted as submitted; any amendments may be found in the minutes of the meeting in which the amendments were made.