

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2021

Call to Order: Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Identification of members present was made through roll call as were all the votes on motions.

Members present:

Bob Bean	Debra Powers	Richard Wilson (BOS Ex Officio)
Ernie Landry	Holly Ouellette	Eileen Clifford
Virginia Morse (HDC – Ex Officio)	Charlotte Boutin (Alternate)	

Members absent: Adam Faulconer (Alternate)

Others present: Walter Roy

March 25, 2021 meeting minutes: Motion to accept made by Ms. Clifford and seconded by Mr. Bean. After discussion of the minutes, Ms. Clifford made a motion that the end of the last sentence in the Seacoast HC/HDC Meeting be amended to add the words “at this time”. This will clarify that the Heritage Commission might consider this initiative at another time. Mr. Bean seconded the motion. Roll call vote was held to accept minutes as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Volunteer Recognition: Mr. Landry mentioned that this is National Volunteer Recognition Week. He mentioned the letter of appreciation sent to all Kingston volunteers by the Board of Selectmen, thanked Mr. Wilson and asked that he extend our appreciation to the full Board. He reminded the group of the major accomplishments made by the group since the Commission was established eight years ago. Mr. Landry thanked the members, on behalf of him and Ms. Powers, for their work over the past year and displayed a mug that will be given to each member in appreciation of their service this year.

Updates:

Plains Cemetery National Register Application Status: Ms. Powers indicated that the project is progressing as scheduled and that we received a draft of the nomination form this week for review by the subgroup working on the project. Once reviewed, the draft will be returned to the Preservation Company for preparation of the final draft. Preservation Company will then send the final nomination package to us and the NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR). NHDHR will review the package for completeness and adequacy, and if it's suitable they will forward it on to the State Historic Resources Council for review and approval before forwarding it to the National Park Service (NPS) for their action. Upon receipt, NPS will have 45 days to take action.

Grace Daley Barn Assessment Grant Application Status: Mr. Landry indicated that we are still waiting to receive the barn assessment report.

Stained Glass Window Project – Mr. Landry indicated that the group may need to regroup a little. The group thought of doing a detailed RFP for full restoration based on estimates we received several years ago. This would also result in having all the windows at the same level of condition at the end of the project.

In recent conversation some professionals suggested the group should commission a condition assessment to determine exactly what restoration is needed. Mr. Landry spoke with one person who specializes in this and got a proposal to do the assessment for \$6800. This figure is based on a very high hourly rate. Many of these folks look at serious stained glass works on renowned buildings and institutions rather than simpler windows like ours (straight line geometric pattern VS Highly stylized with curves, widely varying sizes of glass pieces, etc.).

Another other option is to call in a professional to give us advice on a range from what are the specific needs for each window to whether they should be treated through repair or whether they need complete restoration. This professional could also assist us in developing specifications for a Request for Proposals (RFP). All kinds of issues relate to the condition of the windows – location (Northern or Southern exposure), whether they've been damaged, previously maintained, previously repaired, etc. We have names of professionals who were used by previous grantees of NH Council of the Arts (Stained glass window repair Grantors) who we can contact. Mr. Landry will call a meeting of the sub-committee.

Ms. Clifford gave a brief update on some of the research she's doing to make sure that the initial list of printers who are represented in the stained glass windows is accurate.

Mr. Landry will meet with Mr. St. Hilaire to update him and get his input on next steps

Historic Preservation Resources – Mr. Landry indicated that he and Mr. Bean delivered the books purchased by the Heritage Commission to the Kingston Community Library, at which time Mr. Bean and his wife Marghi donated six historic preservation books from their personal collection.

Historic Agricultural Structures Easement Program – The Town received three applications for tax incentives. They are – 146 Main St., Bakie Farm and 6 Little River Rd. Site walks are scheduled for this coming Monday (April 26th) at 10:30. These site walks are open to the public. A Public Hearing on the applications will be held at the Selectmen's meeting on May 10th. The site walk and the public hearing are good opportunities to learn more about this program.

Documentation:

History Book – Mr. Bean updated the group on the status of the History Book. All the chapters have been written, reviewed by the editor and sent to the printer. Next step will be for the printer to prepare a prototype for review by the committee before going to print. At this point there have been over 200 copies ordered and assigned. The committee is developing a marketing

strategy that includes recording brief vignettes with notable individuals in town reading the book and posting these to various social media platforms.

Fundraising: It was previously determined that fundraising will need to be tied to a specific purpose, so it was agreed that this topic will be eliminated from future agendas until a specific project which requires fundraising is identified.

Outreach/Publicity: Mr. Landry said he has sent an article to the Carriage Towne News regarding the Grace Daley barn Assessment.

The group discussed some possible outreach efforts. Mr. Bean suggested the Commission needs to develop a publicity plan. He volunteered to draft a plan. Ms. Clifford volunteered to help with outreach and publicity.

Mr. Wilson mentioned that there is a new Facebook page that lists various events and activities in town, contains copies of minutes from meetings of town groups, etc. and suggested that this might be a good place to publicize our activities.

Ms. Powers mentioned that we should begin to plan for a booth at Kingston Days. Mr. Bean suggested that perhaps the Kingston History Book Committee and the Heritage Commission could share booth space. Ms. Boutin offered the group a booth space in the Crafter's section at Kingston Days. Discussion ensued. Mr. Landry and Mr. Bean will explore this further.

New Business: None.

Other Business: Mr. Landry reminded the members about the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance (NHPA) webinars as part of the Old House and Barn Expo on the Road as well as all the previous webinars in their resource section.

BOS/Other Town Organization Updates: None

Next Meeting – May 27th at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:21 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 subsequent meeting in which the amendments were made.