

**Kingston Heritage Commission**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: 7/25/2013**

Debby Powers, HC Chair called the Heritage Commission meeting to order at 7:04 PM. The meeting was held at the Kingston Library. Secretary for this meeting: Bob Bean

**Meeting Attendees:**

Debby Powers, Ernie Landry, Bob Bean, Gail Ramsey, Holly Ouellette, George Korn, Walt Roy, Gary Finerty, Jane Christie, Ellen Faulconer, Rich St Hilaire.

Excused: Virginia Morse

**Motion Made & Seconded (MM&S):** A Motion was made to take the meeting out of order from the agenda by Deb Powers, seconded by Bob Bean, and passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Accept Last Month's Meeting Minutes:**

Ernie Landry noted that the vote regarding amendment 10.5 to the Bylaws was not included in the minutes. It was generally agreed that it should have been included, and the minutes will be revised.

**MM&S:** A Motion was made to accept the minutes, as revised, by Gail Ramsey, seconded by George Korn, and passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Kingston Days Event**

Ernie Landry gave a status on efforts for Kingston Days. Displays are in process and should be ready in time. Tent, easels, tables, and displays are all available.

Ellen Faulconer stated that the town clerk was cleaning out an area, and was ready to discard a volume of 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary History books, Calendars (with historic pictures), and programs.

Walt Roy, Jane Christie, and Ernie Landry agreed to see the town clerk and make arrangements to save these materials.

Debby Powers will send an E-Mail to the Town Clerk to document the Heritage Commission interest in the materials.

Debby Powers will make some signs for Kingston Days, and get them to Gary Finerty.

Discussion occurred about accepting donations during Kingston days.

**MM&S:** A Motion was made by Ellen Faulconer and seconded by Debby Powers to accept any donations from the Kingston Days event to the Heritage Fund. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Jane Christie discussed the many displays and events planned for the museum and other Historical buildings during Kingston Days.

### **Bandstand Improvement**

Rich St Hilaire showed pictures from Bob Pothier of the Band stand over various years, shots from the 1920's and also including the repairs done in 1994.

Rich explained that the Bandstand was in bad shape in 1954, and a town warrant article to burn it down was in the warrant. It did not succeed, and the town repaired it then.

Again in 1994 the bandstand was repaired using private funding. However, it is currently in tough shape again. It has fallen off the fieldstone base, and is now on the ground. The sills are not pressure treated, and are at serious risk of rot by sitting on the ground.

A discussion ensued regarding the options. Rich St Hilaire recommends we rebuild to the original condition with some modifications. He does not recommend repairs to make it accessible. If a functional bandstand is desired, he recommends building a larger lower one at the other end of the plains.

He recommended we remove the wainscoting so that kids can not hide on the bandstand. Early pictures seemed to show the wainscoting as a recent (1994?) addition. Also, the current stairs are not safe and should be removed. It was recommended we have a removable ladder, and not leave it out for general use. The ladder is a potential liability issue.

George Korn informed us that Bob Pothier will create a proposal with costs, but may need directions as to required additions. Rich said he believes the ballpark cost will be around \$25K to rebuild as is, depending on what other modifications are requested.

It was suggested we try to get this included in the NH Preservation Alliance 7 to save. Debby Powers offered to check with Nadine at NH Preservation Alliance to determine how close to original do we need to go, and how it will affect funding.

Rich said that town employees can do some of the work, but specialists would be required for some of the work. He also said that he was planning on doing some repairs, but would hold off for one year pending grant availability and project definition.

Debby Powers and Ellen Faulconer agreed to look at writing the Grant request for the Bandstand, using limited access with restoring of the original features. Ellen asked we consider a removable panel of railing to allow access.

### **Grace Daley Status**

George Korn gave a status that the Grace Daley House demolition was due to happen, and would be started soon.

He explained that there was a proposal to maintain the Ell for a future Carpenter tool display.

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) is considering a proposal from Bob Pothier to deconstruct the building for his use and sale of parts.

Communication with the TV show has broken down according to Rich St Hilaire.

It was explained that the Grace Daley Barn is not the best storage place for the buggies, as it is unheated, subject to temperature cycles, and open to vermin. Other possibilities included the stage in the Town Hall. However, for the present the BOS is planning on doing work to maintain the barn.

The group discussed that the Heritage Commission (HC) should consider a project to restore the Ell.

## **Grace Daley Status (Continued)**

Further discussion occurred about LCHIP availability

**MM&S:** A motion was made by Debby Powers to recommend to the BOS that we keep the ell. It was seconded by Gail Ramsey and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **Meeting With Board of Selectmen (BOS)**

Debby Powers gave a summary of the meeting with the BOS.

- The BOS has not accepted our Bylaws. They had questions about accepting gifts. Debby suggested HC has ability to accept gifts that we will be responsible for the stewardship.
- It will not be required for HC to make a budget request as the BOS will allow us some small amount of dollars to operate.
- A discussion was had regarding representing ourselves as HC. It was suggested that unless we were on an approved project, only the Chair could represent herself as the HC.
- The BOS generally support our efforts

## **Fund Raising Discussion**

Debby Powers spoke to Nadine regarding the CLG approval, it is expected in January. Jane informed us that the grant process had some deadlines coming up for LCHIP money.

- New Grant open as of 7/22/2013
- Mandatory Grant writing workshop will be held 7/30/2013
- Deadlines for grants will be 9/13/2013
- Decision expected by 12/18/2013

Further discussion regarding the Nichols Library LCHIP grant denial and possibility that we will reapply.

It was asked if we could put in two applications for LCHIP monies, one for the Nichols Library, and one for the Bandstand.

## **Education of the Public**

Debby Powers asked for writers for stories for the Carriage Towne News. Ellen suggested we ask for a regular column for the HC.

## **Software for Historical Databases**

It was discussed that we need software for our database, as well as other town groups needing similar software.

Debby Powers reported that Nadine (NH Preservation Alliance) uses the Past Perfect software. Jane Christie reported that Hampton and Seabrook use it as well as other groups in the State.

Debby Powers recommended we consider it.

Bob Bean agreed to contact the Software Company and arrange for a demo for the group for our next meeting.

Jane Christie suggested Bob contact Wes Balla from the State Library and get a users perspective. (Jane has forwarded contact info to Bob)

## **Fund Raising**

Debby Powers asked the group to consider fund raising, several issues were discussed, including:

- Contacting key businesses in town who use the bandstand logo for support.
- The HC members were asked to look for which businesses use the bandstand on their logo.
- Yankee swaps as fundraisers
- Use Day of Caring volunteers to do projects
- Add a regular issue to the agenda to discuss and consider fundraising activities.
- Consider Cruise or other event as a fund raiser.
- Solicit donations from local businesses on selected project.

**MM&S:** A motion was made by Bob Bean that Debby Powers be authorized to start the Bandstand Grant application. It was seconded by Gail Ramsey. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Next Meeting was scheduled for August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Kingston Library at 7:00PM.

**MM&S to adjourn.** Motion made by Debby Powers and seconded by Bob Bean to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.