

Town of Kingston Heritage Commission  
Public Meeting  
December 12, 2019 Minutes

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

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

**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 - excused  
Jane Christie, Alternate - present  
Eileen Clifford, Alternate - present  
Adam Faulconer, Alternate- excused  
Open Positions – one alternate position

**Guest/Envision Kingston II:** Walt Roy

**Guest:** Leslie Randlett

**Voting:** Eileen Clifford will be voting for excused member Debby Powers

**Order / Numbering of Discussion Items:** not necessarily in order of printed agenda

**2. Minutes from** the October 24, 2019 Meeting were accepted as read. Motion made by Holly Ouellette and seconded by Bob Bean

**3. Envision Kingston II Subcommittee Update:**

- NH RSA 79-E Tax Incentive Program to Revitalize Historic Downtown Areas: with the goal of getting this RSA to be accepted by the Town of Kingston via town meeting vote, the sub-committee has continued to document and explain the law and its impact to the Board of Selectmen (BOS)

The BOS voted not only to support the incentive but also to submit the warrant article (thus eliminating the need for us to submit the incentive as a petition warrant article) .

The subcommittee plans on presenting at the deliberative session. Leads will be Glenn Coppelman and Virginia Morse

Town of Kingston Heritage Commission  
Public Meeting  
December 12, 2019 Minutes

**3. Envision Kingston II Subcommittee Update** continued:

- TAP Grant to address concerns documented thru Envision Kingston II and in the Town's Master Plan

(background: The Transportation Alternative Program provides federal funding for alternative transportation projects. There are a variety of steps and requirements in the application, approval and award processes; one of the very first steps is the Town sending a Letter of Intent. Later in the process, one of the steps is that the applications are initially scored by the New Hampshire TAP Scoring Committee, whose criteria includes safety, potential for success, connectivity, socioeconomic benefits, and regional priorities. The approval process continues. TAP grants are awarded every other year (in January) to a number of the applications. Of the 38 applications submitted in 2018, 9 were awarded grants in January, 2019).

The subcommittee is researching/reviewing a) how much it might cost to hire a qualified person to write such a grant, b) if any of the funds (\$21,700) currently set aside by the town in the Transportation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund, could be leveraged, and c) timing of other steps needed (for example, public meetings and forthcoming TBA deadlines)

In the event the sub-committee chooses to go forward and as the deadline to submit petition warrant articles to submit to The Town for the upcoming town meeting is fast approaching (January 14, 2019), two warrant articles were proposed (motions made by Bob Bean and seconded by Eileen Clifford (voting for Debby Powers)) and approved regarding the funding of the writing of the grant. One article addressed using \$ from the Transportation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund (if it was determined a possibility by definition) and the second article addressed raising and appropriating the funds

**4. 2020 Planning:**

- NH RSA 79-E: Assuming the RSA is accepted by the Town, determine and proceed with next steps (such as offering TBD support where we could in the application process). See above for current status
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) - TBD; see above for current status
- 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. Eileen Clifford and Susan Prescott volunteered to review the list of Programs for the purpose of identifying topics of possible interest
- Organize and hold an all-day get-together of Seacoast Heritage Commissions - please speak up if you might be interested in taking the lead and/or suggesting topics of interest

Town of Kingston Heritage Commission  
Public Meeting  
December 12, 2019 Minutes

**4. 2020 Planning continued:**

- Write CLG (Certified Local Government) Grant to apply to get the Plains Cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places. The CLG program is a partnership between municipal governments and the state historic preservation program, to encourage and expand local involvement in preservation-related activities

The process has been started with our sending in a Letter of Intent; the next step is the application process

- Demolition Ordinance - on hold

**5. Heritage Fund** – in both 2018 and 2019, we submitted a petition warrant article to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to the fund. In both years, the voters approved. While asking for less \$ was suggested for 2020, the consensus was to ask for \$10k. Eileen Clifford made the motion and Bob Bean seconded it

**6. Installation of “Welcome to Kingston” Road Signs** - Richard Wilson reported that any installation has been pushed out into the spring of 2020

**7. Documentation:**

**Town History Book:** Bob Bean reported that work continues. With recent scope creep (i.e. with additional sections), 70% of the book is written. Of the \$8,000 Fundraising Target for preparation and printing costs, another \$2,900 has been raised, bringing the total to \$5,400

**8. Fundraiser:** not discussed

**9. New Business:**

- Heritage Commission Banner: we reviewed a series of layouts, designed by Walt Roy, of a possible banner that the Heritage Commission could use to identify ourselves and any display we might have at functions/events. We approved the fifth layout in the series with the following modifications: tone down the blue background and forgo adding a slogan. The banner will read “Town of Kingston Heritage Commission” and contain a picture of the revised Bandstand with the stairs down and the red/white/blue buntings hanging. The banner will be 6 feet long and 18 inches wide. We voted to spend up to \$100. Motion made by Gail Ramsey and seconded by Holly Ouellette
- Advertizing warrant articles: we currently have two set of signs to encourage voters to vote “YES” and a list of places we had permission in the past to put up these signs. Please advise Ernie Landry of any new places

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

**HDC:** Susan Prescott reported that the interest in putting a house on the vacant lot at #129 Main Street, which is in Historic District I, is no longer

Town of Kingston Heritage Commission  
Public Meeting  
December 12, 2019 Minutes

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

- the next Envision Kingston II Sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall (upstairs)
- the next HC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 23, 2020 at the Kingston Community Library at 7:00 p.m.; Gail Ramsey volunteered to record the minutes

**12. Meeting Adjourned:** 8:18 p.m. - motion made by Bob Bean and seconded by Gail Ramsey

**Minutes Prepared by:** Eileen Clifford