

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting
February 27, 2020 Minutes

1. Convene Meeting:

Alternate meeting time for 02/27/2020 only: Heritage Commission met a half hour early (6:30 pm) to allow for attendees to update ballot question number on election signs for HC related warrant articles

Call to order: Chairwoman Debra Powers called the meeting to order

Attendance (quorum satisfied):

Members: Debra Powers, Chair - present
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

Guest/Envision-Kingston-Subcommittee: Walt Roy

Open Positions – one alternate position

- 2. Minutes from** the January 22, 2020 meeting were accepted as amended. The item amended was the ninth paragraph down. The amended (replacement) paragraph is as follows: “CLG (Certified Local Government) Grant application to have the Plains Cemetery placed on the National Register of Historic Places: Ernie Landry and Debra Powers are working on the application package for this 100% grant. Mae Williams (the Historic Preservation Consultant from Meredith, NH who worked with the Town of Kingston on the Historical Resources Master Plan Chapter) and Lynne Monroe (Principal of the Preservation Company, Kensington, NH) provided informal proposals to help with estimates for costs of the project. Ernie and Debby will bring the proposal to the Board of Selectmen for approval. The deadline is February 10, 2020.”
- 3. Workshop to update election signs; distribution of signs.** The HC has signs in support of a) Petition Warrant Article to Add \$10K to Heritage Fund (article # 26 on 2020 ballot while it was article # 20 in 2018 & 2019) and b) the Warrant Article to Adopt NH RSA 79-E (article # 19 on 2020 ballot while it was article #26 in 2019)
- The workshop (to update signs with the warrant article numbers for 2020) is no longer necessary as Ernie Landry and his wife Liz Landry made the required updates prior to the meeting. Thank you Liz and Ernie!

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3 continued

- Distribution of signs to members who have agreed to provide a location to display sign(s): attendees can pick up signs from Ernie Landry in the parking lot after the meeting. Also, for those of us without the tools to get the signs securely into the frozen ground, Ernie Landry will ensure that the signs are installed, and then removed after the election

4. Heritage Commission Facebook Page: Adam Faulconer has implemented the HC's initial page on Facebook (FB). Thank you Adam! Discussion included what information we would like put on the FB page such as the HC's mission statement, the Envision Kingston II Document, list of members, etc

5A. NH Humanities Education Grant to allow the HC to sponsor a NH Humanities To-Go Program: The grant provides the funds to pay the presenter for giving the presentation; the HC would reimburse the presenter for mileage.

Susan Prescott and Eileen Clifford gave an update on their recommendations on which NH Humanities To-Go Programs were possible good fits with HC's mission. After a review, we choose the program "How Fresh Water Has Shaped NH" by James Rousmaniere of Roxbury, NH, with June 20, 2020 as our first choice of a date and June 6, 2020 as the second choice. Members gave the project a jump start during the meeting in that Jane Christie conferred with the library staff to pencil in the event for the Morse Room at the Kingston Community Library (with a start time of 1:30 to ensure that any previous occupants of the Morse Room were done with the space in time for us to prepare), and Bob Bean checked the mileage from Roxbury to Kingston to help us to estimate the amount we may expect to reimburse Mr. Rousmaniere for mileage

Action Items: Eileen Clifford to contact presenter Jim Rousmaniere; Debra Powers to fill out the application for the grant, and Debra Powers / Ernie Landry to present to Board of Selectmen (all welcome to BOS meeting)

5B. CLG (Certified Local Government) Grant to apply to place the Plains Cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places. Walt Roy, Ernie Landry, and Debra Powers completed the application package. On February 03, the Board of Selectmen approved the application for this grant to obtain \$ to pay for a consultant to work with HC. The application was submitted to the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources prior to the February 10, 2020 deadline

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- 5C. Grace Daily Barn Assessment Grant:** The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance offers matching Historic Barn Assessment Grants. The purpose of these grants is to cover the cost of a professional assessment which would include determining key construction features and recommending what (if anything) might be required to stabilize, repair and reuse the structure.

There are two types of Historic Barn Assessment Grants: a \$400 grant or a \$250 mini-grant coupled with a match of \$100 or \$250 respectively. Motion made by Ernie Landry and seconded by Gail Ramsey that the HC apply for the \$400 grant with a match of \$100. Motion carried.

- 6. Invitation from Historic District Commission** to attend the HDC's March 18 Meeting at Town Hall: The HDC and the HC have numerous interests in common. Susan Prescott (HDC vice-chair and HCD rep to the HC) reviewed options regarding which meeting to attend. We decided to attend the April 14 HDC meeting as Virginia Morse, HDC chair, plans to be there

7. Documentation

Town History Book: Bob Bean reported that the book is 90 % complete with 2 sections in the final chapter stage. The current target is to have the book available for Kingston Days. The sponsorship program continues; over \$9k (which exceeds the original fund raising goal) has been raised towards the cost of having the cover designed and the cost of printing the books

- 8. Brochure** - several interested parties met for about ½ hour on 02/20/2020 at the Town Hall

9. Fund Raising

- A. Nichols Building** - we discussed offering sponsorships to help defray the cost of repairing the stain glass windows
- B. Other**

10. HC Membership

A. Open positions

- one open alternate position
- the terms of 4 members (3 alternates and 1 "regular" member) expire 3/31/2020. The first step to continue as a member is to contact the Office of the Select Board to declare one's interest

- B. Slate of Officers for 2020** Heads-Up: elections at our next meeting for HC offices: Chairperson, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer

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11. New Business

- A. LCHIP (NH Land & Community Heritage Improvement Investment) Regional Workshop 02/28 – several HC members are signed up to attend
- B. Several attendees volunteered to help hold signs at the forthcoming town election

12. BOS / Other Town Organizations:

- Board of Selectmen: heads-up: as there will be a change in the BOS membership with the upcoming March election, there could be changes in which BOS member is assigned to which boards and committees/commissions (including to the HC)

13. Next Meeting Date / Review Upcoming Calendar/ Determine Recorder-of-Next-Minutes:

- Next meeting date: March 26
- Volunteer to take minutes at next meeting: TBA
- Old House and Barn Expo (NH Preservation Alliance): scheduled for March 21 & 22 at the Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Manchester

14. Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 pm

Minutes Prepared by: Eileen Clifford