

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2021

Call to Order: Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The meeting was held in person at the Kingston Community Library.

Members present:

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

Members absent: Adam Faulconer (Alternate), Virginia Morse (HDC – Ex Officio)

Others present: Walter Roy

May 27, 2021 meeting minutes: Motion to accept minutes made by Ms. Powers and seconded by Mr. Bean. Motion passed unanimously.

Updates:

Plains Cemetery National Register Application Status: Ms. Powers indicated that the Preservation Company has completed writing the application and has forwarded the final application to the NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) for their review and simultaneously to the Town. 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.

Grace Daley Barn Assessment Grant Application Status: Mr. Landry indicated that he is working to try to get someone to help the town in writing specific criteria to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP). This is essential so that bidders have a clear idea of our expectations and it will make comparing the bids an easier process. There was some discussion on the sequence of repairs in light of recent information about the condition of the roof. This will be a point of discussion with the expert who will help us develop the criteria for the RFP.

Stained Glass Window Project: Mr. Landry and Mr. Bean will be meeting on July 12th with a stained glass repair expert to seek assistance in preparing a RFP. We provided a draft set of specifications for his review and comment and will also discuss things to consider in determining whether to repair or restore the windows, whether to repair all at once or in phases, etc. We will also discuss the potential cost for whichever approach we decide to take.

Historic Agricultural Structures Easement Program: Mr. Landry and Mr. Bean will be meeting with Susan Ayer on June 29th to document and standardize the process. Mr. Bean has developed a flow chart to begin the discussion. We believe there will be other process aides developed as well. This will provide anyone handling the program in the future with standard procedures to follow. Mr. Landry also mentioned they will also work with Selectmen to develop some Kingston specific criteria to use in determining the percentage of tax relief each applicant should receive.

Training/Conferences: Mr. Landry handed out a listing of the remaining webinars that New Hampshire Preservation Alliance (NHPA) is presenting as part of their Expo on the Road program and reminded the group that we will be reporting all training to New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) as part of our annual Certified Local Government (CLG) Report. Ms. Clifford handed out and spoke about a form that members can use to report their training to her. Any questions should be directed to Ms. Clifford.

Documentation:

History Book – Mr. Bean indicated that the Kingston History Book has been printed and should be available as soon as next week. The books may be picked up at the location where they were ordered or will be mailed if that was agreed upon at the time of purchase.

Mr. Bean also mentioned that he and Mr. Roy will be working on several “Lost History” documentation books over the next several months. These include the Hazel Hansen House (currently in process), The Sanborn Seminary and the current Fire Station.

Outreach/Publicity: Mr. Landry mentioned that Mr. Bean has developed a draft publicity plan which involves the Commission members preparing and publishing articles (in print media as well as social media) about the Heritage Commission and its activities. Mr. Landry asked for a volunteer to coordinate the program. Since no one volunteered we will continue to address publicity by writing articles as major events occur.

Ms. Clifford indicated that she is revising the recruitment poster that we have used at various events in the past. She asked members to inform her of those activities which they believe are significant and should be a part of the flyer.

New Business: Mr. Landry indicated that as part of the meeting with Susan Ayer on Tuesday, he and Mr. Bean will attempt to have a number of documents loaded on the Heritage Commission web page to serve as resources for individuals researching information about the history of, and buildings in, the town. He previewed a number of the documents with the group through video.

Other Business: The group discussed having an information booth at Kingston Days. The group decided that we will try to have a booth in the Flea Market area rather than in the vendor area as had been discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Landry will contact Ms. Vinciguerra and Ms. Albert to convey our proposal.

BOS/Other Town Organization Updates: Mr. Wilson indicated that the Board of Selectmen selected an individual to fill the position of Code Enforcement Officer. He also mentioned that the Beer Fest will return this year on September 25th.

Next Meeting – July 22nd at 6:30 PM at the Kingston Community Library.

Adjournment – Mr. Landry adjourned the meeting at 9:00.

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.