

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2021

Call to Order: Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. The meeting was held in person at the Kingston Community Library.

Members present:

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

Members absent: Virginia Morse (HDC Rep.)

July 22, 2021 meeting minutes: Motion to accept minutes made by Mr. Bean and seconded by Ms. Powers. Discussion indicated two corrections necessary. Ms. Ouellette was listed as absent but was present (arrived late). Under “Lost History” Mr. Bean was listed as having indicated an opportunity was available to photograph the Tristan Sanborn House. This was instead, mentioned by Mr. Roy. Motion by Mr. Bean to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Powers. Motion passed unanimously.

Updates:

Plains Cemetery National Register Application Status: Ms. Powers indicated that the Preservation Company has sent the final draft of the application to NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) who is conducting the final review. They will forward it to the State Historic Resources Council for review and then it will be forwarded to National Park Service for approval. We expect approval will take several months.

Grace Daley Barn Assessment Grant Application Status: Mr. Landry indicated that he, Mr. Bean, Mr. Roy, Rich St. Hilaire (Road Agent) and Mr. Chuck Geary met with Bill Coleman, who conducted the barn, to discuss next steps. Several approaches were discussed which all involved replacing the rotted sills and providing supports under the interior posts. Options ranged from restoring the stone foundation to laying a full slab foundation. The group will get estimates for the options and then decide what to recommend. The highway department may be able to mill some of the lumber from trees cut during an upcoming timber harvest at a town forest.

Stained Glass Window Project: Mr. Landry indicated that Tom Driscoll from Sash and Solder Window Restoration of Portsmouth, NH will come in mid-September to provide a projected high and low range of cost for use in establishing a fundraising goal. This will not be a formal proposal.

The team will coordinate the meeting with Mr. St. Hilaire. The group is still doing research about the printers' devices in the windows. The team needs to develop a brochure or other document to use in the fundraising process.

Historic Agricultural Structures Easement Program: This is still a work in progress. Mr. Landry is working on developing a draft application to use as a sample as part of a package of information for applicants.

Documentation:

History Book – Mr. Bean indicated that the Kingston History Book is selling very well. Approximately 400 books have been sold. They need to sell another 100 books to break even on the cost.

Lost History - Mr. Bean shared the completed the Hazel Hanson house documentation. Two upcoming projects are the Sanborn seminary and the Fire House.

Web page update – Mr. Landry and Mr. Bean are working with Block 5, the town's technical support group to find a way to load large documents on the town web site or find other alternatives to make them available to the public. One option might include some sort of external hosting if it's secure and meets town standards. We expect to hear back from Block5 soon.

Budget and Spending discussion –

Draft 2022 budget - A motion was made by Mr. Bean and seconded by Ms. Clifford to approve the budget. Motion passed with one abstention by Mr. Wilson. Discussion ensued with final determination to add \$5000 back into the budget for possible future grants and to add \$480 dollars to pay an individual to produce meeting minutes beginning in March of 2022. Motion by Mr. Bean and seconded by Ms. Powers to accept the budget as amended. The motion passed with one abstention by Mr. Wilson.

Draft Spending limits – Mr. Landry presented a draft policy on spending limits prepared by Mr. Bean based on a discussion at the July meeting. The group discussed a policy whereby the Chairman would have authority to spend up to \$100 at his/her discretion and up to \$200 with agreement of the Vice Chair. Motion by Ms. Powers and seconded by Ms. Ouellette. Motion passed unanimously. This policy will become part of the Heritage Commission governing rules.

Outreach/Publicity: Mr. Landry and Ms. Powers gave a recap of the Kingston Days booth activity and mentioned a few lessons learned for the future.

Mr. Landry asked if anyone had ideas regarding possible articles for the Carriage Towne News as well as any volunteers to write an article. Ms. Powers indicated that she is preparing a combined article about the Plains Cemetery National Register nomination and the availability of vacant alternate positions on the Commission.

New Business: Mr. Landry indicated that he has reviewed the Commission “By-laws, Rules of Procedure and General Governing Rules” and noted that some changes may be necessary. Mr. Landry will send out copies of the document to members for their review to prepare for a discussion of necessary changes at the September Commission meeting.

Other Business: No other business.

BOS/Other Town Organization Updates: Mr. Wilson indicated that the Code Enforcement Officer position has become open again and the Selectmen are seeking applicants. He also mentioned that there will be a Department Head meeting on Aug. 30th to discuss, among other things, possible uses for the grant money the town will receive under the American Rescue Plan Act. The meeting is open to the public and we’re encouraged to attend.

Next Meeting – September 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM at the Kingston Community Library.

Adjournment – Mr. Landry adjourned the meeting at 8:30 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.