

Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2022

Call to Order: Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. The meeting was held in person at the Kingston Community Library.

Members present:

Debra Powers	Richard Wilson (BOS Ex Officio)	Ernie Landry
Eileen Clifford	Holly Ouellette	Virginia Morse (HDC Ex Officio)
Charlotte Boutin (Alternate)		

Members Absent: Bob Bean

Ms. Boutin will serve in the capacity of a full member during this meeting, replacing Mr. Bean who is absent.

Guest: Walter Roy

December 2021 meeting minutes: Motion to accept minutes as written made by Ms. Powers and seconded by Ms. Clifford. Motion passed unanimously.

Updates:

Plains Cemetery National Register Application Status: Ms. Powers indicated that the Cemetery has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and that we hope to have a recognition ceremony sometime in the spring. She also mentioned that this makes the cemetery eligible and competitive for possible grants.

Mr. Landry mentioned that it was discovered during the project that the Old Hearse House, that is now the Plains Cemetery storage building, is not on town property but is on Bill Bartlett's property and it might be appropriate to approach him about an easement on the land under and nearby the building. Mr. Wilson will speak to Mr. Bartlett about this.

Stained Glass Window project – Mr. Landry mentioned that Tom Driscoll from Sash and Solder Window Restoration was at the Museum on Tuesday to remove the SGW-10 window. He indicated that he would arrange a time for the sub-committee to visit his studio to observe how a window is repaired. Mr. Landry will coordinate this with the sub-committee.

The sub-committee met on January 20th. A fundraising letter drafted by Ms. Powers was discussed and she will revise it before the next meeting. The group discussed the possibilities of a brochure to add to the package when the fundraising letter is sent out. Ms. Powers and Mr. Roy subsequently prepared a draft of the brochure and presented it at this meeting. Mr. Landry had prepared a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) and the sub-committee members will forward comments to Mr. Landry before the next meeting. The group also discussed potential donor groups and plaques to put in the museum to identify the donors.

Grace Daley Barn Assessment Grant Application Status: Mr. Landry indicate that the town has received two bids regarding repair of the building. The Board of Selectmen have initiated a warrant article asking the voters to support removal of money from the Building Maintenance Fund to accomplish the work. If the warrant article is successful at Town meeting, work should begin in the spring.

Budget and Warrant Articles – The Budget Committee (Bud. Comm.) and the Board of Selectmen (BOS) approved the recommended budget. They also recommended the Heritage Commission warrant article to raise and appropriate \$5000 to the Heritage Fund. The Bud. Comm. recommended the BOS article to provide funds for the Grace Daley Barn rehabilitation.

Mr. Landry asked members to think of locations where we can put lawn signs supporting the warrant articles and to let him know how many signs they need or identify locations where he can place the signs.

The group also discussed the possibility of preparing letters to the editor. Mr. Landry asked members to identify if they were willing to prepare a letter.

Sanborn Seminary – Mr. Landry indicated that Mr. Chinburg passed papers on the Seminary property. Because he changed the scope of his initial proposal for rehabilitation he will need to submit a new application for Community Revitalization Tax Incentive and there will need to be a new hearing.

Possible new Projects:

Mr. Landry indicated that he and Mr. Bean are working on a list of possible projects for 2022. Two projects previously discussed are obtaining National Register plaques for the two town properties on the Register and the potential for a building assessment grant for the Old Firehouse (museum) through the NH Preservation Alliance (NHPA) building assessment grants program. Mr. Landry asked members to think of possible projects for the commission as well as which projects they would be willing to participate on. He

stressed that we can only do projects for which we have the human and financial resources available.

Ms. Powers indicated that we could look at the possibility of projects to place additional buildings on the National or State Registers. This might be done through a CLG grant.

New Business:

Mr. Landry asked to take this topic out of order so the commission could discuss the By-laws last.

Mr. Landry indicated that the NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) announced their grants deadlines for 2022. Mini Grants are available to join the National Alliance of Preservation Commission (NAPC) as well as for CAMP (Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program) training. Mr. Landry suggested that this might be appropriate for the Historic district Commission (HDC) or as joint training for HDC and HC. Deadline to apply for these grants is February 14th.

Mr. Landry indicated the due dates for the regular grants are as follow:

Letter of Intent	February 22, 2022 at 8:00 AM
NHDHR Follow Up	March 1 – 11
NHDHR Invitation to Apply	March 14
Applications due to NHDHR	May 9

There was a brief discussion as to whether we should apply for a grant. Given the short time frame a decision would need to be made before our next scheduled meeting. This could be accomplished through a special meeting. Anyone with ideas for and willingness to work on a grant should identify that.

Mr. Landry also mentioned that NHDHR will be sponsoring training on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act on February 4th at Noon. Mr. Landry will provide the webinar sign-in information to anyone interested in participating.

Review and Discussion of By-Laws, Rules of Procedure and General Governing Rules:

The members discussed the draft by-laws, etc. Suggestions for changes were made and agreed upon. Mr. Landry will incorporate the comments into a final product to be voted upon at the next meeting.

Other business: There was no other business to come before the commission.

BOS/Other Town Organization Updates:

Mr. Wilson indicated that selection of a Code Enforcement Officer will be made soon.

He also indicated that the Board of Selectmen will be signing a contract for scanning of documents and suggested the commission start to assemble material to be scanned.

Next Meeting – February 24, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Kingston Community Library.

Adjournment – Mr. Landry adjourned the meeting at 8:33 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.