**Town of Kingston, NH Heritage Commission**

**Public Meeting Minutes**

**March 24, 2022**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Ernie Landry called the meeting to order at 6:40 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

Bob Bean Charlotte Boutin (Alternate)

Absent: Ralph Murphy

Guest: Walter Roy

**Recognition of Ms. Powers:** The group recognized Ms. Powers on her departure from the Commission after nine years. The group thanked her for her leadership of the organization over many years which resulted in significant accomplishment in preserving Kingston’s heritage. We all wish her the very best.

**January 27, 2022 meeting minutes**: Motion to accept minutes as written made by Ms. Powers and seconded by Ms. Ouellette. Motion passed with 7 in favor and one abstention, Mr. Bean.

**Election of Officers:**

Chairman– Motionproposing Mr. Landry as chairman by Ms. Powers. Seconded by Mr. Bean. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman – Motion proposing Mr. Bean as Vice-Chairman by Ms. Powers. Seconded by Mr. bean. Motion passed unanimously.

A decision was made by the group to delay election of the Secretary and Treasurer until the next meeting.

**Updates** -

Warrant Article Results**:** Mr. Landry indicated that both warrant articles passed with a large majority. He thanked Ms. Clifford for writing a letter to the editor in support of the articles and thanked Mr. Roy for holding a sign at the polls supporting the articles.

Stained Glass Window project – The Stained-Glass Window Sub-committee is working on developing a brochure and flyer and letters to potential donors for fundraising as well as a Request for Proposals to be sent to potential bidding studios. It also continues to do research on the various printers. One window is in the process of restoration and should be returning to the Nichols building soon. The group talked about the potential costs of the restoration and the intended methods of fundraising.

Grace Daley Barn Rehabilitation: Mr. Landry indicated that the town can move forward on the rehabilitation now that the warrant article passed and provides for funding of the project. He also mentioned that he is looking into the possibility of applying for a Moose Plate grant to assist in funding the project. Eligibility depends on whether the barn is eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places. When the barn was part of the Grace Daley complex it was eligible. Now that the Grace Daley building is gone there is a question of its eligibility. Mr. Landry has asked the NH Division f Historical resources (NHDHR) for advice on how to proceed.

Sanborn Seminary – Mr. Landry indicated that Mr. Chinburg has submitted a new application for tax relief under the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Program RSA 79E. This was necessary due to a change in the scope of the project. A public hearing is scheduled for April 4, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

**Discussion and Approval of By-laws, Rules of Procedure and General Governing Rules-**

The group discussed the final draft of the By-Laws. Mr. Landry went over the changes from the previous By-Laws and there was general discussion. One addition was made under the role of the Secretary indicating that the individual would, “ensure that the minutes of meetings are recorded and that the requirements of RSA 91-A are upheld”. A motion was made by Ms. Powers to accept the By-laws as revised, pending approval by the Board of Selectmen after appropriate review. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bean and was approved unanimously.

**New business:** Mr. Landry indicated that the Heritage Commission has been invited to a meeting of local Heritage Commissions sponsored by the Sandown Heritage Commission on March 30, 2022 at 7:00 PM. All members are invited. Mr. Landry, Mr. Bean and Ms. Clifford expressed their intention to attend.

**BOS/Other Town Organization Updates:**

Mr. Wilson indicated that the contract to scan all town documents has been signed. Scanning will begin the first week of April. Committees should start reviewing their material to determine what needs to be scanned. He will ask Susan Ayer to send committees a document regarding records retention requirements.

Mr. Wilson also indicated that the Selectmen are looking at making changes to the cable bulletin board, possible web site improvements and upgrading the phone system to a computer-based system.

He also mentioned that the last day of duty for Chief Briggs will be April 8th. There are plans for a recognition event on April 16th.

**Next Meeting –** April 28, 2022at 6:30 PM at the Kingston Community Library.

**Adjournment –** Mr. Landry adjourned the meeting at 8:10 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.