

Town of Kingston, New Hampshire
Historic District Commission
Minutes of Meeting
September 11, 2012 –7:11PM

Present: Virginia Morse, Judy Rubin, John Flanders, Stanley Shalett (acting as voting member)

Absent: Charlotte Boutin, Ralph Murphy, Glenn Coppelman (Planning Board Representative), George Korn (Board of Selectmen Representative),

Minutes: Minutes from the August 14, 2012. John Flanders made a motion to accept the August Minutes. Stanley Shalett 2nd the Motion. All in Favor. No Opposed. Judy Rubin abstained as she was absent from the meeting. Motion to accept August Minutes carried.

Correspondence: Virginia Morse stated that she just received the Kingston Capital Improvement Plan in the mail box but had not had time to review the information. Virginia stated that she would review the information and contact the board members as needed. The Historical Society also sent information that would be reviewed and the information will be passed along.

Board Updates:

Planning Board, Stanley Shalett: (inaudible)

Virginia Morse stated that the Historical Society and the Library Trustees have applied for an LCHP grant and that the Board of Selectmen has approved a \$900 review of the building to be done by a Certified Historical Planner, Developer or Restorer.

New Business: Virginia Morse stated that she had received an email from Ralph Murphy stating his intention of resigning from the HDC because of scheduling conflicts. Virginia stated that she has not received his letter of resignation at this time. Virginia stated that she and Judy have reached out to potential new members to fill 2 vacancies and alternates. The HDC discussed a list of potential members to be contacted by members.

Virginia reminded members that the HDC had contacted the School Board last year via letter stating the HDC's interest in partnering with them regarding efforts to preserve the Seminary building. Judy Rubin read the letter that had been sent. Judy asked the HDC members for their opinions on pursuing the issue. Judy Rubin stated that she will contact Nancy Ross for suggestions as to how to best approach the subject with the School Board.

Remember When Gathering: The next gathering will be held on October 21, 2012 at the new Library in the Community Room. Virginia Morse stated that she will bring the document camera that was used before in order to project images onto the screen in the room. Judy Rubin has an article ready to print in the Carriage Towne News with information about the Remember When Gathering. Judy has offered to take care of refreshments. Virginia stated that the event still needs a moderator or facilitator. She asked the group for suggestion. The group discussed possibilities of individuals and members were assigned to speak with them. The group discussed the HDC's desire to record the event for preservation. It was also noted that a member of the community, Bill Friend, had passed away.

Signage: Virginia Morse stated a letter was sent to the Board of Selectmen regarding businesses within the Historic District that are in noncompliance of the signage ordinances. Virginia read the letter to the HDC. The letter listed the specific businesses and the specific codes in violation. George Korn, Board of Selectmen member, updated Virginia prior to this evenings meeting that the Board of Selectmen had reviewed the letter and were planning on contacting each of the businesses regarding the violations. The HDC was reminded that this letter was prompted by the realization that new businesses were adhering to codes that existing business were overlooking.

Kingston Chronicle Articles: Judy Rubin wrote an article based on memories given by Elizabeth Whitney which is ready to print. Judy Rubin stated that there is also an article advertising the Remember When Gathering. Judy also stated that the article on the Grist Mill was published in May. She suggested an article on the 1686 house. Judy added that suggestions for future articles are needed. The HDC discussed possible topics including local businesses. Stanley Shalett was asked to research information on the 1686 House.

New Business: Liz Wyler Beebe contacted Virginia and stated that she wanted to attend this meeting to seek more information regarding the possibility of an application for the Church on the Plains to construct an official handicap access. Virginia suggested that the committee break until her arrival for an informal discussion of the plans.

Judy Rubin made a motion to adjourn the meeting to a work session. John Flanders 2nd the motion. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Meeting reconvened at 8:00.

The Beebes representing the Kingston Historical Society for the Church on the Plains discussed plans for a handicap access to the church. Virginia Morse stated that she was unsure as to whether or not the HDC has official jurisdiction of the Church on the Plains. Judy Rubin researched this issue during the meeting and determined that the building would be under the jurisdiction of the HDC. Virginia added that for the purpose of the application, the HDC would waive the application fee. They discussed the ADA code requirements. Virginia Morse gave the example of an existing property that currently has a ramp as an example as to how the ramp could be built in such a way to not stand out aesthetically from the property. Liz Beebe and her husband provided several illustrations of options for the HDC to review. The plans and variations were discussed. Virginia stated that the Society would also need to bring the plans to the Planning Board for review. The Historical Society will complete the application and are scheduled to appear before the HDC at the next meeting.

Next Meeting is scheduled for October 9th, 2012.

A motion was made by John Flanders to adjourn at 8:20 P.M.

Judy Rubin , 2nd the motion. All in Favor. No Opposed. Meeting Adjourned.

Virginia Morse, chair