

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of February 27, 2017
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm the Selectmen's office. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and George Korn.

Non-public Session

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, Chairman Heitz polled the Board for a unanimous vote to adjourn to non-public session under the provisions on NH RSA 91-A:3, II-a. The Board adjourned at 6:30 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 6:53 pm.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Korn, it was unanimously voted to seal the minutes of the non-public session for an indefinite period.

The Board moved upstairs in order to allow the public portions of the meeting to be televised.

Discussion of Special Event Permit Conditions

Robert and Marghi Bean of the 3 Maples Ren Faire Corporation were present to request the Board's reconsideration of their denial to use the Plains as a parking area for the 2017 Renaissance Faire to be held on the Beans' Tucker Road property in May. Mr. Bean spoke about the contributions to area charities - amounting in 2016 to more than \$54,000.00 -- and about the benefits that local businesses derive from the Faire being held in Kingston. He spoke about the growth in the event and the fact that parking availability no longer meets the size of the venue. He assured the Selectmen that, if they were to approve use of the Plains as a parking area from which shuttle busses can transport patrons of the Faire, his crews will ensure that any damage will be repaired and that all parking will be managed by his attendants.

Chairman Heitz advised that the Town annually invests several thousands of dollars to maintain the grassed areas of the Plains and stated that he will reconsider Mr. Bean's proposal only if a cash bond were to be posted from which any grounds work necessary after the Faire can be undertaken. If the bond were not used, it would be returned to the Beans. It's his opinion that there should be no cost to the town for a private event of this nature and if the ground is wet - as it is likely to be in May - the parking of hundreds of cars could do substantial damage. Mr. Bean agreed to ask his Board of Directors if they will consider posting a bond. Selectman Korn suggested that, in lieu of a cash bond, the Faire might prefer to purchase a rider from its insurance carrier that will cover damage to the Plains. Chairman Heitz noted that it would be substantially more difficult to collect from an insurance rider than if the cash were in hand.

Mr. Bean noted that, additional to the parking areas, it's his intent to have porta-potties available on the Plains for use of the Faire's patrons.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick it was unanimously voted to reconsider the decision relative to parking on the Plains for the 2017 Renaissance Faire event, pending a commitment by the Fair Association to provide an assurance of \$10,000.00 from which possible repairs to the Plains can be funded, with the Town incurring no cost whatsoever arising from the use of the Plains for Parking and/or shuttling of patrons.

Kingston Days Program Proposal Discussion

Lynn Gainty and Carol Carbonneau of the Kingston Days Committee were present to discuss with the Board their proposal for a wine tasting event to be held on the Saturday evening of the 2017 Kingston Days event. The tables would be set up in the food tent, which would be enclosed so that there is only one entrance, at which id's can be checked and wrist bands can be issued. The Committee will obtain the necessary license from the NH Liquor Commission, which requires that they be sponsored by a

non-profit. Several area groups have indicated that they will assist with that requirement in return for a donation to their scholarship funds. Local wineries will provide the wines for the tasting in return for being able to sell their wines at the event, and the committee will provide finger foods.

Chairman Heitz noted that he will require approval of the Police Chief and noted that the event will require a special dispensation from the Board relative to the town's ordinance prohibiting alcoholic beverages on town property. He also will require that either the Committee or the sponsoring group provide insurance.

Ms. Gainty also noted that the Committee may be requesting authorization to have a petting zoo during this year's celebration

Acceptance of Grant from NH Department of Safety

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Chairman Heitz it was unanimously voted to accept a \$4,500.00 grant from the NH Department of Highway Safety for the purpose of purchasing E-Ticket equipment for use of the Police Department. The grant documents were signed, initialed and notarized as required.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Chairman Heitz, it was voted to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2017 meeting as printed.

Administrative Issues

The Board noted and approved employee vacation notices.

The Board approved a recommended tax settlement with a tax payer for a 2016 abatement request.

An email advising of an alleged land use violation on Pennimans Grove Road was reviewed. The complainant will be advised that the matter has been investigated and deemed to be a pre-existing, non-conforming use.

An email in support of a 2017 Warrant Article requesting funding of a full-time Adult Services librarian was noted.

The Board accepted quotes for engineering services required to meet a NH Department of Environmental Services investigation and mitigation mandate. A decision on the quotes will be made at the next meeting.

Evelyn Nathan was appointed to represent the town on the NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee.

A veterans credit application was approved.

A letter from the Rockingham County Commissioners advising that they will be moving to a July - June fiscal year was noted.

The Board approved continuation of the state's beach sampling program with an increase in the testing fees.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant**