

**Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of November 5, 2012  
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Selectmen's Office of the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and George Korn.

**Planning Board Proposal for Heritage Commission**

Planning Board members Ernest Landry and Glenn Coppelman were present to discuss with the Board a proposal to introduce a Warrant Article for adoption of the provisions of N. H. RSA 674:44-a and establishment of a Heritage Commission. Citing a recent estate auction from which many artifacts reflecting Kingston heritage were sold to out of area dealers, they explained that the Commission would be empowered to establish a trust fund from which expenditures to retain such items could be made, and also would serve in an advisory capacity to other land use boards. The proposal to establish such a Commission arose during a meeting to consider update of the Master Plan's section on Natural Resources, which is being undertaken with the assistance of Historic District Commission Chair Virginia Morse. Examples of historic sites that would benefit from restoration efforts include the Cheney Mill and the multiple small, private cemeteries located throughout town. A Heritage Commission would be able to accept gifts and donations allowing the purchase and management of such properties on behalf of the Town.

Selectman Korn agreed with a need to have a group specifically charged with the preservation of the town's heritage and said that he would support a Warrant Article to establish a Heritage Commission. Chairman Heitz agreed, noting that a petition Warrant Article likely would be more effective than an article introduced by the Selectmen, because it would demonstrate a level of interest among the public. He advised that the Planning Board would be wise to ascertain a level of commitment from enough people to form the Commission prior to seeking voter support for it, since the membership can include only a limited number of members of other Land Use Boards.

**Discussion of Sign Ordinance Enforcement**

Mr. Landry advised that the Planning Board feels there has been a proliferation of non-compliant signs throughout town and likely will be issuing requests for enforcement action to the Selectmen in increasing numbers.

Chairman Heitz noted that he has briefly discussed the issue with the Planning Board Chairman and has reminded him that the town did not approve a Code Enforcement Officer so the Board of Selectmen will not be in favor of any type of inventory project to seek out violations, since that would be a Code Enforcement function.

Some discussion was held concerning a Route 125 building on which two electronic messaging center signs have been installed, with sign permits having been issued by the town. A Planning Board request for compliance enforcement cites several areas of non-compliance that either don't apply to the signs in question (such as non-compliance with the size limit, which is determined by the Building Inspector to not apply), or are of such a nature that a determination of non-compliance is subjective (such as "deterioration of the community environment"). A ban on computer animation type signs may apply although the owner proposes not to use the animation features at all, but the Selectmen prefer that the

property owner speak directly with the Planning Board about that issue, particularly as the permits were issued and the owner has made a substantial investment in the signs. Mr. Coppelman noted that the permits include a statement that any variance from the town's ordinance automatically voids the permit. Chairman Heitz advised that the property owner will be requested to speak directly with the Planning Board.

### **Administrative Items**

The Board reviewed a submittal by the Library Trustees to the Capital Improvements Plan Committee relating to improvements to the Nichols Building.

An application for a Veterans Credit was reviewed and approved by the Board for the 2013 tax year.

### **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Korn it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of the October 22, 2012 meeting as printed.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm and the Board retired to address administrative issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine Grant  
Administrative Assistant