



Heritage Commission

Minutes
2022 March 17
233 Atlantic Ave.
Mary Herbert Room

Present:

Jane Currivan
Donna Etela
Vicki Jones
Carol Seely
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Jeff Hillier, Nancy Monaghan, Jane Robie

Absent: Jim Maggiore

1. Call to Order at 9:32am.

2. Treasurer's Report. Seely reported that as of February 1 the Heritage Commission had \$7676.84 in the Heritage Fund. With the addition of 65 cents interest and the \$1000 operating budget, total available funds at present are \$8,677.49. The report was approved unanimously as prepared [Jones moved, Currivan seconded]

3. Approval of Minutes. The 17 February 2022 minutes were approved unanimously as prepared. [Seely, Jones]

4. Old Business.

The chair announced that Jeff Hillier will be moving by mid-year and that there will be a social get-together before his departure.

Historic District/Centennial Hall. Jones reported that Lisa Mausolf was finishing Stratham's town-wide area form and expected to have information for the Commission's April meeting.

PastPerfect Public Access/Web site public education. Swank informed the Amherst and Stratham Heritage Commission chairs about our effort. She had hoped to add the images Lisa took for the town-wide area form, many more than what appear in the booklet,

but has run into a glitch and the PP staff have not come up with an easy solution; each address might need to be entered as a separate record. Swank now is experimenting.

Coastal Hazards Master Plan [MP]. Hillier reported that there has been no specific development. Next steps include the MP going to Planning Board for approval and a public hearing associated with that process.

Master Plan Draft. Jones indicated that she is meeting with Jenn Rowden of Rockingham Planning Commission and Planning Zoning Administrator Rick Milner on March 31 for feedback and possible additions to the Commission's chapter.

Alternate Positions/HC Nominations. Etela noted that Deb Sillay offered some suggestions. They are: Kathy Ebert, Eric Knowles, Patty Tomaloni, Nancy Bergeron. Etela thought of Hank Brandt as a possibility. Currivan will try a Little Boar's Head resident again. Monaghan indicated she had spoken with John Sillay who seems interested and that she expects to hear from him today.

Robie and Swank have sent letters to Town Administrator Tully asking to continue as alternate and member respectively.

NH DOT/Pocket Park. Etela attended last Monday's Select Board meeting where the NH DOT were on the agenda to speak about the rail trail effort. The Heritage Commission can have a pocket park across the roadbed from the Town Center and to the west of the S.A. Dow house. The Commission is to work with the Town Administrator in how to proceed, including how to fund the project.

Etela noted that the Memorandum of Agreement between the Heritage Commission and NH DOT signed July 28, 2019 is good for five years.

Jones will ask Mausolf about the continued eligibility of the rail bed and what along it might fall within Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Hillier will take a ride and check out what is there. He and Robie a few years ago walked the roadbed and there were various railroad monuments. Questions arose about the tree-cutting now occurring on School, Sagamore Golf, Gun Club, and Glenn Martin land, some thoughtful, some aggressive, and any potential impact upon the rail trail.

Action Items. None not already covered.

5. New Business

Drake Farm/Hubbingtons. Etela received an email from Peter Rhoades inviting her to attend a Channel 5 *Boston Chronicle* filming the next day. He was very complimentary about the Heritage Commission during the filming.

Becky Mitchell, a NH Preservation Alliance board member and former chair of the Stratham Heritage Commission, also was in attendance. The film crew were interested in the

repurposing of barns. They were going on to Throwback Brewery later in the day. Rhoades will let Etela know when the program is airing.

Stratham Heritage District. The Planning Board ordinance for a Stratham Heritage District along Route 33 passed. Etela had distributed the Stratham ordinance and the color brochure used to promote the district.

The discussion led to a segue about our historic district effort and if it were to include the Center Cemetery, what might be needed. It would be helpful to both the Heritage Commission and Historical Society to have an idea about what records exist that would help both entities.

6. Next Meeting Date & Time. April 21, 2022 at 9:30AM.

7. Adjournment. 10:42AM

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary

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