

Approved as prepared
at 16 June 2023
meeting



Heritage Commission

Minutes
2023 May 19
237A Atlantic Ave.
Town Office Conference Room

Present:

Donna Etela, chair
Vicki Jones
Jim Maggiore

Carol Seely
Susan McCullom-Barry
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Jane Robie

Absent: Nancy Monaghan, John Sillay

1. Call to Order at 9:34 am.

2. **Treasurer's Report** for the month of April was approved as prepared (Jones moved, McCullom seconded). There is a total of \$26,603.07 as of April 28th, representing an interest increase of \$64.64. \$17,550 of the amount represents funds collected and designated for the Walkway project. The operating budget has \$725 remaining.

3. Approval of Minutes. The minutes for the April 20, 2023 regular meeting were approved as prepared. [Jones moved, McCullom seconded; Maggiore abstained as not present at April meeting]

The minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting relating to the preservation easement for the barn at 48 Ocean Boulevard were approved as prepared. [Jones, Robie]

4. Old Business

Master Plan/Planning Board update. Etela, Jones and Swank attended the Planning Board work session on May 16 where there was a brief discussion of the draft that the Commission had prepared for the Master Plan. There were a few small changes that Jones will do; circuit rider Jenn Rowden will then make a few formatting (font) changes to the table. The Planning Board hearing for the historic resources chapter is Tuesday, June 20th.

Past Perfect/Web site update. Swank continues to work on entering the Library construction images. There were two recent issues with PastPerfect. It does not accept images in the .heic (high efficiency image file format). Her Apple device will export to JPG or Tiff, but it is an extra step. Swank's PastPerfect contact will learn if there are any current plans to accept .heic files automatically. The other issue – not enough memory – will be remedied overnight if not earlier and relates to PP's servers.

A discussion about the Land Use summit scheduled for June 22 ensued. It was agreed that demonstrating PastPerfect via computer was too problematic and that Swank would simply discuss very briefly the project, and access to the images on the Town website. A second topic will be our need for a barn survey that builds upon the information we have from our Eagle Scout project.

Barn Easement 48 Ocean Blvd. The public hearing will occur at the next Select Board meeting on May 22nd. Etela encouraged all to attend, and noted she had invited the Little Boar's Head people to come also. [Maggiore stepped out briefly to file a quorum notice regarding the meeting]. There was some discussion *re* the LBH Heritage Commission and its involvement in such reviews for any LBH barns. In this case, Etela had encouraged the LBH Heritage Commission to participate and a couple of their members did tour the Bell-Sullivan barn on the assigned day. Maggiore would like us to review the procedures that are in place from receipt of the application by the Town through to the Select Board decision, and how the LBH Heritage Commission would be involved for properties within the district.

Action Items

None not already discussed.

5. New Business

National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Review - 24 Walnut Ave. Several members had driven by. Etela read her response to EBI Consulting that there were no adverse effects to historic properties within the area. Her letter was approved unanimously. [Jones, Seely]

Jenkins Farm - 93 Exeter Rd. Linda and Joel Van Arsdale (daughter of former owner Cindy Jenkins) intend to build a new house but save the old one, a rare (for North Hampton) Foursquare in which Linda grew up, moving it behind the barn and preserving it. They contacted Etela as a neighbor and chair of Heritage Commission as there is a possibility such a move will fall under the Commission's purview for a demo permit review. After discussions with the family and with Rick Milner, Planning/Zoning Administrator, it seems only a building permit may be needed.

Walkway Project. Etela reported that the project will be done according to the plan prepared by the Walkway Committee. Maggiore indicated it most likely will be accomplished no later than this Fall.

Barn Survey/Planning Board. Nancy Monaghan had contacted the Chair about the number of barns in North Hampton. Etela, and then Swank, provided information and a number based upon the Eagle Scout project. Swank sent her the Excel spreadsheet. There are about 200 barns and perhaps 20 connected barns. Swank also listed the types of barns in New Hampshire that John Porter lists from earliest to most recent in his book *Preserving New Hampshire Barns*, available at the Library.

Fogg cemetery request North Hampton School. The Commission deferred to the Historical Society which had received the same query about the Fogg cemetery and cellarhole located behind the school. Robie and Jane Boesch who had volunteered for the Commission's Town Hall/Depot historic resources survey in 2012-2014 will share the information they developed with the inquirer.

Additional business.

Maggiore asked whether the Heritage Commission had had any recent communication from the NH Department of Transportation. Etela responded none. As the State is now working on the North Hampton segment of the Rail Trail, moving at a 2500 feet per month pace, he recommended that we work with the Town Administrator and NH DOT to develop a plan with timeline for the pocket park, signage, and Mausolf's history, all part of the mitigation for the Drake's Bridge project. Maggiore will reach out to NH DOT and copy the Heritage Commission.

6. Next Meeting Date & Location. Friday, June 16, 2023 at Town Office Conference Room.

7. Adjournment 10:55am

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary