



Heritage Commission

Minutes

21 March 2024

Town Offices, 237a Atlantic Ave.
Mary Herbert Conference Room

Present:

Donna Etela, Chair

Vicki Jones

Susan McCullom-Barry

Carol Seely

Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Jane Robie, John Sillay

Absent: Jim Maggiore, Nancy Monaghan

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, newly elect Planning Board member Jennifer Kotzen introduced herself and indicated she will be this year's PB representative to the Heritage Commission. She then left for a previous commitment.

1. Call to Order at 9:36am.

2. Treasurer's Report. At the Commission's prior meeting, the 2023, not 2024 numbers, had been provided. The Treasurer obtained the correct numbers for both January and February 2024 and presented the two reports. In January the \$17,550 dedicated to the walkway project was debited from the Heritage Fund. Interest earned was \$70.82. \$20,477.25 remains in the Fund and \$1000 in the Commission's operating budget. The only transaction in February was interest earned of \$55.57, with \$20,532.82 in the Heritage Fund and \$1000 in the operating budget as of February 29, 2024. The reports were approved as presented. [Jones, moved, McCullom-Barry seconded]

3. Approval of Minutes. The date of the 2/15/2024 meeting was amended to give the correct date, and minutes were approved. [Jones, Seely]

4. Old Business

Past Perfect/Web site update

Swank reported she had had no time to add photos.

Barn Easements

Members discussed the discretionary barn preservation easement application for 220 Post Road. All had reviewed the extensive application document and all but Swank had toured the barn. Members voted unanimously that the barn met the requirements for an easement, and that the maximum percentage allowed was appropriate.

Peter Rhoades, 148 Lafayette Road, had submitted an application for renewing his barn easement for another ten years. The application was complete, and all members had at some time visited Hubbington's in the past month. Members voted unanimously to recommend renewal of the easement and at the current maximum percentage allowed.

George Chauncey, 28 Hobbs Road, also has submitted a renewal request of his 10 year easement but did not provide any updates. The Chair will communicate with Chauncey; the Commission will take up its renewal at next month's meeting.

Etela reported that no renewal application had yet been submitted for the South Road property. Deadline for discretionary barn easement applications is April 15th.

Public Hearing for barn easements

For the two applications on which members voted, there will be a public hearing at the next Select Board meeting on Monday, March 25th. Etela will communicate the Commission's recommendations to the Select Board and be present at the meeting to speak.

Barn Survey

Reasons for doing a barn survey effort include the revised ordinance relating to ADUs; demo review applications; and preservation barn easement applications.

Swank suggested several steps in getting the survey underway. 1) review the barn surveys done by the North Hampton Historical Society in the early 2000s, and by Joan Ganotis, Agricultural Commission in the 2010s, totalling more than sixty barns.

2) review the town-wide historic resources survey booklet and check Mausolf's listing of properties for barns noted in that list.

3) check the Eagle Scout project for images of barns by street address, noting any not covered by the previous efforts that should be reviewed.

Sillay and McCullom-Barry volunteered to do these first steps.

Etela will remind Maggiore about the need to find out if the Assessor or the vendor of the assessment database can produce a list of properties containing barns and accessory agricultural structures. Not all properties are visible from a public road, and even generators show up as accessory structures on the Assessors database.

Terms of Office

Members Carol Seely, and Susan McCullom-Barry were approved unanimously for new three year terms; Jane Robie and John Sillay were approved unanimously for one year terms as Alternates. [Etela, Swank]

Action Items. All deferred as Maggiore not present.

5. New Business

Megaletoscope Images

Swank distributed 5 x7 prints of six Megaletoscope images. All agreed to have three images printed as 16 x 24 canvasprints by Photosmith, Dover, NH at a cost of \$119 each. She and Etela had visited Photosmith yesterday, discussed the images and what might be done. The three are to be displayed above the Megaletoscope in the conference room. Swank will be reimbursed for the \$17.70 cost of the 5x7 prints.

6. Next Meeting Date & Location.

April 18. 2024, Mary Herbert Room, Town Offices.

7. Adjournment. 11:24am

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary