

Approved at  
19 Jan 2017 meeting



Thursday, 15 December 2016  
Heritage Commission Conference Room  
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Paul Cuetara  
Jane Currivan  
Donna Etela, Chair  
Jim Maggiore  
Jane Robie

Alternates: Jeff Hillier, Vicki Jones

Absent: Carolyn Brooks, Nancy Monaghan, Cynthia Swank

1. Call to Order at 9:33 AM. Jones to vote for for Swank.

2. Treasurer's Report. Currivan reported a change of \$0.63 interest. \$1000 in the Operating Budget, \$4949.88 in the Heritage Fund. The Treasurer's report was accepted as prepared. (Cuetara moved, Robie seconded)

3. Approval of Minutes. November 17, 2016 minutes were approved as written. (Currivan moved, Robie seconded)

4. Items for Discussion

**NHDOT Bridge Project** - North Hampton 24457 (U.S. Rte 1 Bridge over railroad where North Road (West and East) intersect US Route 1

The Heritage Commission was initially notified in March 2015 of bridge replacement plans by the Department of Transportation and asked if the Commission would participate.

An email to Etela on 12.6.2016 notified the Commission that a meeting on the project would take place on 12.8.2016 in Concord. Maggiore was in attendance at the meeting, Etela and Robie phoned in.

Maggiore summarized the meeting:

The DOT is planning to replace the bridge in FY 21. The bridge is in poor condition and is on the NHDOT Red List. There are two replacement/reconstruction alternatives (both alternatives include the realignment of the North Road, east and west intersections with Route 1) :

1. Replacing the existing superstructure and rehabilitating the existing substructure. This alternative would consist of prefabricated bridge units. This would cover the existing granite blocks from the 1900 construction. Suitable for rail use.
2. Constructing a new pre-cast concrete arch on concrete abutment walls and footings with the portions of the existing substructure would be removed. Sufficient for recreational trail use.

The DHR summarized areas of sensitivity for historical impact:

- Rollins building and parking lot (high)
- Hubbington's (Drake farm) property to the railroad easement (high)
- Office Park across Rte 1 from Rollins (medium)
- Eastern Railroad bed (National Register eligible)
- Bridge (National Register eligible)

DHR is proposing mitigation measures that would compensate for the adverse and would like the Heritage Commission's input:

- Documentation
- Signage
- Photographs
- Possible speaker on railroads (Swank Suggestion)

Commission discussion centered on the impact to:

- Hubbingtons
- Rails to Trails
- Realignment of North Road/Route 1 intersection
- Archeological sites/Indigenous tribes

The NHDOT plans a meeting in March 2017 in North Hampton to gather feedback. The Commission does not yet know any details as to structure, date, time, and place.

Maggiore suggested that the Commission be pro-active with our concerns.

A subcommittee was formed to draft a letter to NHDOT. The members are Maggiore, Etela, Robie and Hiller. Commission members should send any concerns to this group. Hillier and Cuetara will address Rails to Trails, Etela and Robie mitigation concerns.

The sub-committee will meet on Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 9:30 in the Heritage Room in the Stone Building.

5. Next Meeting Date and Time. 1.19.2017 at 9:30am

6. Adjournment. 10.25am

Vicki Jones  
Secretary Pro tempore