

FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION
Minutes of December 14, 2013 Meeting

Present: Maureen vonRosenvinge, Barbara Caskie, BJ Carbee, Michele Ferencsik, Elly Miles
Excused: Diane Curran, Betsy Hardwick
Others: Scott Carbee, Warren Kiblin

The minutes of the prior meeting were corrected and approved.

Maureen reported on the impact of CIP Hearings on Town Hall renovation:

- At the first meeting priorities were established with bridges and buildings at #1 and the Town Hall up from a prior year's #10 to #2.
- The bond issue was discussed at the second meeting with the Town suggesting a \$300,000-\$350,000 bond in 2014 to support the Town Hall with the town's matching funds for the LCHIP grant application, the maximum possible grant from LCHIP being \$400,000.
- At the third meeting it was reported that the Highway Dept. had just learned of the downgrade of two more bridges which would impact the town's ability to support the Town Hall project. Maureen explained it would take \$525,000 to get the building available for use. Stage I is complete; stage II would be to get 1st floor up to code and open for use; stage III would include roof upgrade, interior and exterior painting and the 2nd floor. Options for partial renovation were discussed including delaying replacing the bumpout. The town will be doing some building projects in 2014 and may be able to fund repair of the tower ballisters and two louvers (@\$960 each). This would enable delaying the full tower project by ten years.

Maureen will speak with Mike Branley about rules for tabling articles so that warrant articles are presented at Town Meeting before they can be tabled.

Scott Carbee said this year is the 100th anniversary of the Town Clock. Work has been completed to reinforce the box for the bell striker. OMH plans to complete the steeple work in the spring. Maureen will apply for Cogswell Grant funding for additional clock work.

Elly gave a quote on T-shirts from BeezeTees. There was discussion of need for sample shirt to judge quality and for having Commission T-shirts rather than just Town Hall T-shirts with Commission logo on the front and heritage structures (museum, clock, town hall, etc.) on the back.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2014 at 9 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elly Miles