

FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION
Minutes of February 13, 2016 Meeting

Present: Barbara Caskie, BJ Carbee, Brad Howell, Elly Miles
Excused: Diane Curran, Michele Ferencsik, Lisa Stewart
Others: Betty Behrsing, Ruth Behrsing, Lisa Bourbeau, Scott Carbee, Polly Freese

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

Motion by BJ to approve January 9, 2016, January 20, 2016 and February 1, 2016 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Brad. All in favor.

Motion by Brad to accept Treasurer's Report. Seconded by BJ. All in favor.

Elly brought up having a table at Town Meeting this year. It worked well last year and is an opportunity to publicize the Town Hall project. Lisa Bourbeau said Michele was planning to do the table again this year. Elly will request permission from Moderator Paul Lawrence.

Lisa B said the Friends of the Town Hall had changed its name to Friends of the Heritage Commission. The Friends have incorporated with a Board of Directors and by-laws. They have registered as a non-profit charity organization with the State of New Hampshire and are applying for 501 c 3 status with the IRS. That process can take from 8 months to a year. However once registered with the state, there is an expedited process if a grant application is dependent upon the 501 c 3 status. Brad Howell said everyone is committed to going forward with the project. It may take a bit longer but people are on board and ready to see it through.

As stated in letters to the Commission from herself and Diane Curran regarding their stepping down when their terms ended in March, Elly said it was important to convey the message that the work for the Town Hall project continues. She distributed a draft press release for the Francestown News and the Ledger Transcript outlining the current status of the Town Hall project. It was suggested that the article should include mention of the openings on the Commission and a thank you to Diane for her extended service on the Heritage Commission. It was also agreed that Elly would send an adapted version as a personal letter to the donors.

Discussion followed re recruiting new members. Members are appointed by the selectmen but current members are encouraged to talk with people they believe might be interested.

Brad thanked Elly for the work she had done with the Commission. Elly said she remained committed to the Town Hall project and both she and Diane would help in whatever ways they could.

The next regular meeting of the Heritage Commission will be April 9, 2016 at 9 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Elly Miles