

Hampton Falls Heritage Commission

Draft Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2015

David French, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm. Also attending were Beverly Mutrie, Secretary, Mary Ann Hill, Commissioner, Mary Ann Kasprzak, Selectwoman, Ann Haggart, Alternate and guests, Don Janik from the Rec. Department and George Koch from the Historical Society. Ann Haggart was appointed a voting member in the absence of Wendy Harrington.

Under discussion was the Tercentennial Celebration which is 7 years from now. Marietta Garavaglia and Judy Smith were the original appointees to the Steering Committee and along with Wendy Harrington have produced a video of about a dozen residents' oral histories. We need people to form a new Steering Committee that can guide the hopefully many and various Town groups' participation.

We need to engage the School's third graders which will be juniors in 2022.

The Fire Department was encouraged to send a representative along with the Police Dept. The Churches need to be contacted to do a special service perhaps. We might ask Julie Hall Williams and Gayle Szydlo to participate. We need a Facebook page so people can give us ideas.

Marietta thought that Commercial booths for food vendors might be a draw. Several other ideas came to light:

Paint traffic lines -- red, white, and blue. Elm trees along Rte. 1 and other major roads to define the entrance to Hampton Falls from either North or South.

Signs, Banners, Political letters from the Governor, Senator etc. Use RCP's map collection to show then and now especially the wetlands or conservation areas and how they have changed over the years.

Inventory the Cemeteries and put them on the Web: Find a Grave, e.g. Indian Graves at Wakeda.

Highlight our important citizens: Whittier, F.B. Sanborn, R.A. Cram, Alice Brown, 3 Governors etc.

George asked what is our target audience? Just residents or out-of-towners that like NH History? Hampton Falls was the most industrialized town in NH at one time. We seemed to think both.

Do we have an author in town? Suggest Peter Randall who did NH Then and Now to see if he would be willing to do a pictorial book.

George has some expertise with streaming video or producing a sellable DVD that shows Hampton Falls as it is now, as a reference for 50 or 100 years in the future. Contact Andrea Melville as she has done a video of the history of the Isle of Shoals.

Actors playing Gov. Weare, Lafayette, and G. Washington could be hired. Re-enact a 1800's town meeting. Build a Gundalow. Have an Historical Trolley Tour.

Ann Haggart suggested that we should or could have residents do a charette type workshop to think about what we want the town to look like 300 years into the future-tomorrowland. This could be led by UNH or RPC.

We could have the East School open with games and a teacher to direct the children in olden school days.

Make a modern map with Google, name everyone's house in town on an overlay, along with video of streetscape.

Genealogy of people in town? or their background...That can involve a lot of time, along with writing a sequel to the 1972 commemorative book.

Bev Mutrie posed the question...we should first answer the question: Do we want the celebration to occur throughout the whole year, for a month, or just a weekend or some combination of all three.

George had to leave at 7:45 pm.

We reminisced about the Firemen's Fair and Old Home Days....a Pie Auction, Ham and Bean Supper with Pies, White Elephant Table, Book Sale, Games (Frog Jumping Contest/Dunking Stool/Bicycle Race/Contest etc/ Collectors Table, Crafts table etc.

John Starvish Jr. (Pewter) should be contacted...Pelham Pewter has the Starvish Molds. John Starvish Jr. is still living in Concord. We could have a Commemorative Coin or medal done by NH Pewter Co.(exquisite work) or others.

Foremost, we need a plan so to justify our asking for money from the town.

Need to identify venues: Church, School, Applecrest, Gov. Weare Field, School Field, Raspberry Farm, etc. Heronfield could be asked to participate. Winery or Brewery?

August 3 is the next meeting. Don Janik will report back as to when and how long the Rec Committee would like to have the Celebration. He will ask them to start brainstorming re Golf event, RoadRace, Bike Race, Tennis Match etc. Don was excused at 8:12 pm.

We have \$5164.91 in our treasury. Lynn Monroe has sent her invoice for \$5000 for the two DHR applications. We have been noticed that we are eligible for listing on the State Register (Town Hall and Museum}. D. French explained that she gave us a \$2500 credit towards the bill. Ann Haggart motioned to accept the Preservation Company's invoice and agree to pay them \$5K. M. Hill seconded and all agreed. B. Mutrie will notice Liz Riordan and Lori will be contacted also.

We had three work sessions to add to the old house spreadsheet. Mary Ann Kasprzak attended two, Mary Ann Hill, three, Beverly Mutrie, three, Ann Haggart two and David French three. B. Mutrie will attempt to finish it and forward info to Wendy.

A motion was made to approve the June 1 Meeting Minutes by D. French, seconded by M. Kasprzak and all agreed. The minutes from June 22 were also approved as amended by M. Kasprzak, seconded by A. Haggart with all others agreed.

We discussed the result of the demolition permit for the shed at 68 Brown Road. The shed was most probably built around 1906, when the Arthur Browns lived there and added onto later. D. French will write a letter to Mark with suggestions on how to streamline the process and convey the requirements to applicants.

A motion to adjourn was heard at 8:37 pm by M. Hill, seconded by M. Kasprzak. and all voted "AYE".
Beverly Mutrie, Secretary