

HERITAGE COMMISSION (HC)
TOWN OF HOOKSETT

MINUTES OF MEETING
July 28, 2009

Members present: Kathleen Northrup, James Walter, and Sally Humphries. Excused: David Bernard. Absent: Paul Loiselle.

Roxanne Kate, our new member, was present but not yet sworn so did not participate in any votes. Roxanne has been volunteering as a transcriber of the oral history interviews so has already contributed a great deal to the commission's work.

Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m. at the Library.

Jim moved acceptance of the minutes of 6/23/09; Sally seconded. Minutes approved.

NEW ITEMS:

1. Election of Chair for 09/10 fiscal year. Jim nominated Kathie. Unanimously elected.
2. Members approved expense voucher, K. Northrup, February through July 10.
3. Kathie reported on receipts for June.
4. Kathie advised that the Town's Annual Report will feature Arah W. Prescott Historical Library as the cover.

Review Assignments:

1. Jim, purchase table. Done.
2. Sally, framed prints. Sally has one more lead in addition to listing on Craig's List. As an alternative, Kathie will price enlargement of photos to fit the frames for possible hanging at the town offices. Sally will supply measurements.

OLD BUSINESS:

Old Home Day

Roxanne volunteered to coordinate coverage for our table. Jim will not be available; Sally offered to take a shift as will Kathie if there is no trolley tour.

The Head School Society has decided to direct their outreach efforts elsewhere so they decided not to have a table. Jim suggested we invite them to our table should anyone want to participate.

Head School

We encountered an emergency situation a couple weeks ago. Ants had gotten into sill of the window on the west end that had been boarded up with plywood. The whole sill had to be replaced. Kathie was able to find a contractor who could do the work quickly. We also needed the access to the attic fixed before the plasterer came.

Sally made a motion to expend \$138 for replacing the window sill on the west side of the building and for enlarging the attic access opening and making a frame. Jim seconded; unanimously approved.

Plastering is done 7/24, 25, 27, 28. JRS Plastering did a wonderful job. He has over 25 years experience, worked with us to maintain “flawed” finish, etc.

Decided to do floors next and painting last. Need more time to finish up work on windows.

Dave has started replacing old Plexi with Lexan and has constructed the one new storm window. Storm windows have been installed on south side.

The old Shirley homestead is being torn down. Kathie got permission to take the shutters, but unfortunately they proved to be too big for even cosmetic use at Head School.

Kathie and Dave went to Nashua again to get a few more measurements. Dave has decided he would like to build the desk/benches himself. He will work on this over the winter. We may still need other volunteers to make benches for the perimeter of the room. Roxanne will see if her husband might volunteer.

Kathie made contact with the Robie’s preservation group President about a possible loan of the old box stove that had been in use at the store for many years but is now in storage in their attic. He will contact his board members. Discussed having a sign acknowledging the origin of the stove, etc. Roxanne also may know of a possibility.

When visiting Nashua, S. Fineman offered to donate a teacher’s desk to the program.

The Head School Society has now visited four schools. They are exploring what is involved in incorporating to obtain non-profit status. They have a volunteer to help with IRS/financial documents. Jim mentioned a possible affiliation with the Kiwanis. In lieu of having a table at OHD, the group will be having an information booth and perhaps a raffle at the September new-school-year open houses at each of the schools.

The Historical Society has made a substantial donation to the Head School project—to be split between the building preservation and the school programming as needed.

Kathie would like to schedule an open house at Head’s in September or October after the interior work is done. The Society will participate also. If all goes as scheduled, they plan to introduce the school program in the spring of 2010.

It was decided to have our September meeting at the school.

Oral History Project

Some interviews are still out being worked on, but we have only six remaining unassigned. They have yet to be converted to audio files by our AV volunteer.

Demolition Review Ordinance

As D.Boutin has left the HC, a volunteer is needed to take over this matter. Jim agreed to do so.

Historic Sites

Kathie reviewed the ongoing inventory project for Roxanne. She will choose a couple of sites to work on.

Historic Markers

Kathie asked the group about doing an historic marker for Head School and Cemetery. We probably will not pursue National Register listing and with the implementation of the school program, the foreseeable future of the school is set. She suggests we could do the unveiling next spring when the dedication of the school is held. Members agreed. Kathie will work on preparing the text.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Sally - Head prints. Kathie price enlargements.
2. Jim - Demo ordinance
3. Roxanne - Choose a couple historic sites

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup
Chair
August 3, 2009

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 25, 2009, 6:45 p.m., Library

