

HERITAGE COMMISSION (HC)
TOWN OF HOOKSETT

MINUTES OF MEETING
January 26, 2010

Members present: Kathleen Northrup, David Bernard, Sally Humphries, Roxanne Kate.
Absent: James Walter, Steven Boyd, and Paul Loiselle.

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

Acceptance of the minutes of 11/24/09 deferred; insufficient members present to vote.

NEW ITEMS:

1. Roxanne and Kathie reported on receipts collected since our last meeting.
2. Dave moved to approve Kathie's expense reports for Head School (through December 15) and General Account (through November 30). Sally seconded. All approved.
3. Members were reminded about Heritage Day in May. Possibility of including the Town Hall Preservation Committee (THPC) in the day's events. More discussion at our next meeting.
4. Roxanne moved to expend \$50 for the HC's organizational membership in the NH Preservation Alliance. Dave seconded. All approved.
5. Kathie has received inquiries from homeowners asking how to research their old house's history. Because of this Kathie would like to set up an informational session which would be co-sponsored with the Library. A speaker will be provided by the Preservation Alliance. Kathie will make arrangements for April or May. Having such informational meetings may be something we want to consider doing occasionally.
6. Town Hall Preservation Committee invites our members to attend their meetings and to have a HC member sit on their committee. If interested, please contact Nancy Van Scoy, Chair of the THPC.
7. Our budget request of \$1,250 was approved by the council. It is included in the Town Administrator's budget.
8. Kathie sought approval of a thank-you gift for a vendor of our merchandise. The group approved.
9. After review and approval by a majority of the members, a letter of support for the Kiwanis for a grant for work on the Head's Pond trail has been sent.

Review Assignments

1. Kathie, work with web developer. Some progress was made. Kathie will continue pulling together information for inclusion on the site.
2. Kathie, display for 2nd floor conference room. Still working on it, some photos have been

printed. There will be a letter to the editor in the Banner seeking a photo of the Sky Ray Drive-In for this display.

3. Kathie, prepare supply of posters. Done. Roxanne reports that posters are selling well.
4. Volunteer to prep and paint wood stove for Head's. Done, Kathie. A husband of a Society member will work on the stove.
5. Jim, ask about amending PB minutes? To correct some inaccuracies. Deferred, Jim absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

Head School

Kathie appeared before the council on 1/14/10 to give a report regarding the Moose Plate Grant monies and the interior work at Head School.

Two volunteers cemented in areas in the rock/granite foundation. Should help lessen rodent population.

A volunteer will be donating wood and residents at YDC/SYSC (Youth Development Center/Sununu Youth Services Center) will be making one bench for the perimeter.

Dave moved to expend \$1,155.48 for lumber for desks, including delivery and milling charges. Sally seconded. All approved.

Dave moved to expend \$45.32 for cut nails to be used in the construction of the desks. Sally seconded. All approved.

Dave moved to expend up to \$100 for some finishing materials (stain, brushes, etc.). Sally seconded. All approved.

Dave reported on the construction of the desks. Premium and Select grades of pine were chosen as the wood for the desks. The work is progressing well.

A security alarm system was installed 1/14/10 by the town.

Kathie met with the Town Administrator on 12/30/09 to discuss the status of the Head School Society, i.e., public body vs. private group. After that meeting and as a result of conversations with the Local Government Center, it was decided that the Society was an independent, private group. They will be setting up their own bank account. Any person wanting to donate to the Head School project who desires a tax letter will be directed to make the donation to the HC with a directive to earmark the funds for the school program. The Society will be donating program-related items to the town of Hooksett.

It was also decided that the HC will oversee the building, scheduling, etc.

Kathie appeared at the Hooksett-ites 1/15/10 with Society members. She gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the preservation project. Two Society schoolmarms did a few minutes on their program. A similar group presentation is scheduled for faculty meetings at Underhill and Memorial in February and March and at the PTA in March.

Society members will be guests at our February meeting to update us.

Sally has started making the fleece erasers. She is also working on painting the coat hooks.

Stone Wall Inventory Project

Roxanne reported on her progress with the stone wall inventory project. She has made several contacts to gather information including a HC member in Candia and the DHR. She obtained copies of Pine Blister Rust maps from the State Archives. There was discussion about how much info we should seek, how to document it, how it would be most useful in light of the proposed stone wall provisions of the Development Guidelines, etc. Roxanne will contact Jo Ann Duffy, Town Planner, for her input, as it was her predecessor who originally suggested the inventory.

Oral History Project

Starting in December Kathie did a follow up with those volunteers from whom she had not heard in a while. A few interviews were returned. Kathie readvertised for help in the Banner, VolunteerMatch.org,, and the town web site. She got 8 new volunteers.

We are still pending files from AV volunteer.

We had spoken several months ago about token thank you gifts for volunteers who completed several transcriptions. Thank-yous were approved for one local volunteer (eight hours of transcription and continuing) and a volunteer from Thornton, NH, who has done excellent work on three interviews.

Roxanne had been a volunteer transcriber before joining the commission, completing eight hours of transcription. She continues to work on another tape. We thank her for her outstanding contribution to the oral history project.

OTHER

Kathie had asked members to consider goals (individual and commission) for the upcoming year.

Kathie:

Head School: Finish interior and punch list with Dave, get the school program going, rededication as a school, historic marker, finish documentation on outside and inside work.

Other: Work on oral history transcript review. Process for review by narrators, etc.

Explore possible consolidated history book—fire department, police, 1885 extract

Perhaps State Register listing for Village School

Start working on cataloging, etc., when volunteer completes scanning project.

Would like to see the commission explore update of Hooksett history (1968-200?)

Sally:

With Garden Club, explore on landscaping at Head School.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Kathie, display for 2nd floor conference room
2. 2006 leftover calendars
3. Jim, ask about amending PB minutes?
4. All - thoughts on Heritage Day in May
5. Kathie - arrange research session
6. Remaining members, goals for 2010

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup

Chair

January 29, 2010

**Next meeting Tuesday, February 23, 2010
6:45 p.m., at the Library**