

HERITAGE COMMISSION (HC)
TOWN OF HOOKSETT



MINUTES OF MEETING
May 22, 2012

Members present: Kathie Northrup, Roxanne Kate, Jim Sullivan, Dave Rogers. Absent: Peggy Teravainen.

Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m. at the library.

Roxanne moved acceptance of the 4/24/12 minutes; Dave seconded. Unanimously approved. Jim moved acceptance of the 5/10/12 minutes; Dave seconded. Unanimously approved.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Martin Piroso, a local resident, appeared before the commission with concerns and questions about maintenance of Hooksett's public cemeteries. He would like to see more done especially with regards to headstones, i.e., broken, precariously leaning, covered with organic matter, encroached upon by shrubs, etc., starting with an evaluation program. He has some ideas on how to go about organizing and assessing the conditions of the monuments. He wonders if overseeing this long-term project would fall under the HC and, if so, if there is interest by the commission in being involved in some manner.

The maintenance might be in the form of professional or trained volunteer labor or a combination. He has begun gathering information; he contacted a monument company in Concord for advice. We discussed "jurisdictional" questions. For example, Hooksett Cemetery Commission regs state that it is not responsible for anything to do with repairs, etc., regarding monuments. Martin will continue to gather information on the maintenance, will contact other "friends" groups to learn their structure and tasks, and will review town documents and RSAs to try to discern jurisdiction and responsibilities by the various town groups involved.

The commissioners support the concept and look forward to Martin's findings. Kathie will contact State offices and send Martin any info she can get on other towns with similar programs.

COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Old Home Day invite, 9/22/12. Discussed if we should participate. Tabled until next meeting.
2. The State Historic marker has been found, retrieved by the state, fixed and reinstalled.

REVIEW ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Kathie, volunteer response--done. The volunteer is working on reviewing scans.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Roxanne reported on sales for April at outlets.
2. A photo of the sign regarding protecting archaeological resources that P&R has installed on the Head trails was distributed. Kathie assisted with design and by supplied the photo. The sign was a suggestion by the NH Division of Historical Resources to Manchester Sand and Gravel (they paid for the signs) when they did the dam restoration last year.

3. The town will be seeking a grant to set up a Neighborhood Heritage District basically encompassing the extended village area. Dean Shankle and Jo Ann Duffy will prepare the application. See http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/documents/neighborr_hert_handbook.pdf for info on Heritage Districts. Kathie offered assistance if needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Heritage Day, Sunday May 20, 8th Annual

About 40 people started on the cemetery tour on a quite warm Sunday. According to the evaluations, the tour was very well received. Of those people filling out evaluations, attendees came from Pembroke, Manchester, Alton, Bow, Webster, Massachusetts, Boscawen, and Hooksett (12). It was about tied as to where they heard about it--Banner and NH Humanities Council website or mailing.

Several stopped for a visit at the school also. No merchandise was sold.

Indian Murals

An author contacted Kathie to inquire about using pictures of the large mural as a cover for a book he's writing on the archaeology of the Western Abenaki of VT, NH, and western Maine. No specifics discussed yet.

Veterans' Monument

Softball game:

We won't be meeting again until after the softball game. The next planning meeting with Fire, Police, and Legion is 5/31.

PD and FD think they have enough players. A couple of councilors and some people from the library and town hall have signed up. FD still working on details of HYAA participation.

Music should be on a CD.

Kathie will be doing a "save the date" soon for distribution by members.

Jim, Kathie, Dave, and Roxanne will be available for coverage. Kathie has lined up another couple volunteers.

Jim volunteered an autographed baseball as a possible raffle.

Other:

Talked about game night. Jim has decided the library would be a better spot to hold it--size, convenience, video equipment, etc.--perhaps during the first or second week in September. Jim will provide members with a list of prize categories and prizes.

Discussion on variety show deferred as Peggy was absent.

Dave has a few calls out to get information on an appraisal event. Could concentrate on just ephemera, discussed possible prices. He will continue exploring options.

No further information on a dance night.

Work at the site/budget:

Perry Bros. was notified of the acceptance of their bid on May 16. They will be in contact after June 1 to schedule a date. As discussed at the last meeting, they will throw in the power washing of the walkway and area surrounding the main monument.

Town administrator will be presenting at the first June council meeting a spending plan based on the default budget should the recount yield the same results.

Demo Review Regulation

On Friday, May 4, Kathie received a telephone and email request for our approval of the demolition of 10 buildings on the Peterbrook site and was advised that demo was to begin on the following Monday, May 7. After hearing from all members, on May 7 Kathie sent an email advising that when we got the permit application as outlined in the demo reg we would have no objection.

NH History Week

Members chose October 11 for scheduling of [New Hampshire's One-Room Rural Schools: The Romance and the Reality](#) at Head School. Kathie will prepare the grant application and confirm with Mr. Taylor.

Hooksett History Book Update

Roxanne's press release soliciting ideas for the update appeared in last week's Banner. She will begin working on "decade" articles, i.e., stories about happenings of each decade which may prompt input from the public.

Other

None

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Carry-over, Peggy estimate of expenses for variety show
2. All, Old Home Day invite
3. Jim, list of prizes and categories; details of games
4. Kathie, NHHC grant for History Week
5. Roxanne, working on "decade" stories for newspaper

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Kathleen Northrup, Chair
May 22, 2012

Next meeting Tuesday, June 26, 2012 - 6:45 p.m., Library