

Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes  
Londonderry, New Hampshire  
May 28, 2015

In attendance: Chairman Commissioner Arthur Rugg, Vice-Chairman Commissioner Pauline Caron, Commissioners Tom Bianchi, David Colglazier, Sue Joudrey, Martin Srugis (7:04); Alternate Commissioners Janet Cichocki, Roger Filio and Noreen Villalona (7:07); GIS Manager/Planner John Vogl; Town Council Ex-officio Jim Butler (7:05); and citizens Kent Allen and Deb Paul.

Absent: None

Chairman Rugg called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Sunnycrest meeting room of the Town Hall.

Chairman Rugg appointed Alternate Commissioner Janet Cichocki to vote for Commissioner Srugis.

Vice-Chairman Caron moved and Commissioner Joudrey seconded a motion to approve the minutes for the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion carried: 6-0-0.

An invitation for appearance in the agenda was offered to JJJM Enterprises, LLC/Gordon Welch - Proposed Self-Storage Facility at Mammoth Road and Smith Lane, for signage approval by the Chairman. Nobody appeared for the applicant.

Kent Allen reported that the trails in the Town Forest have been cleaned out by raking the paths. He said that after the Memorial Day ceremony, several groups of people were able to traverse the trails and find their way to the cemetery without signage. He noted that there was a small amount of old signage in the Town Forest from the Londonderry Trailways group in existence.

The Town Manger, Kevin Smith, said that there should be some more signage in the Forest. Mr. Allen said that he would wait for that to appear. If it were done, it would come from the Town Highway Department.

Chairman Rugg said that for any new signage there would need to be a Public Hearing since it would be a change in the Historic District. Mr. Rugg said that there was a previous Public Hearing for the signage installed by the Trailways group.

Councilor Butler concurred that a lot of people had been in the Town Forest after the Memorial Day program and they could see the benefits of this area and the needs for more work to be done to make it more accessible to all citizens.

Mr. Allen noted that people are waiting to see what happens when the work is done by the direction of the Conservation Commission to have the Forest improved by the treatments for the eradication of the Oriental Bittersweet that is pervasive. It was previously noted by several people that there is also a lot of poison ivy along the trails.

There were several anecdotal comments about different small things that were observed by people to support the improvement of the Town Forest trails from the standpoint of the public and the continued interest from the Heritage Commission.

Councilor Butler Asked about the sign at the old Global Station. The Heritage Commission approved of a new sign at the ten-foot level. Chairman Rugg said that the Planning Board approved the same sign, but that the applicant went to Zoning Board of Adjustment to permit the use of the old sign level, which was considerably higher. It was noted that the current sign regulations do not allow for differences in adjoining terrains. The old Global sign was already several feet below the adjoining roadway at its base.

Councilor Butler asked about renovations to structures not coming before the Heritage Commission. Chairman Rugg noted that if a structure does not exceed its original footprint, it may be cosmetically altered without Heritage Commission approval. Deb Paul also asked about the rules for exterior rehabs coming before the Heritage Commission.

Chairman Rugg noted that there were some small problems with working in the system. There are some ways of getting building rehabs by going through the Building Inspector, which does not trigger a review by the Heritage Commission and/or some other reviewing entity. If a site plan is not changed, then a review is not needed.

Commissioner Bianchi asked about a sign on the side of the Twins Smoke Shop that was new. Chairman Rugg said that it would have to abide by zoning regulations. Mr. Bianchi was concerned about the light levels coming from the sign. Rugg said that he had passed along Mr. Bianchi's concern to the Building Inspector for review, but has not heard back about the issue. Mr. Rugg said that the light levels would have to follow the original site plan performance requirements.

Several Commissioners were concerned about the ability of people to be able to make changes to structures without having a review take place by either the Planning Board and/or the Heritage Commission. Chairman Rugg said that the statutes would need to be reviewed to address these concerns.

Chairman Rugg commented upon the draft legislation that was sent to Senators Carson and Boutin for the 2016 legislative calendar. Commissioner Colglazier said that he had been to Senator Carson's office earlier that day. The secretary in the office stated that she was aware of the draft, but had not heard anything from Senator Carson about it. Mr. Colglazier had delivered the drafts and support letters to the Senators mentioned on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Commissioner Srugis asked about people keeping up their property if they were to receive an assessment reduction.

He was concerned that somebody might not make a continued effort at structural preservation. Commissioner Colglazier said that if a person were to receive an assessment reduction it would be good for a period of four years. At that time, the owner could go through the process again to get a new reduction. A notation could be made about changes in condition - bad or good – at that time. Mr. Colglazier noted that the renewal would not be automatic.

Chairman Rugg noted that the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance membership needs to be renewed.

Commissioner Joudrey moved and Vice-Chairman Caron seconded a motion to renew the NHPA membership for \$50.00. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Vice-Chairman Caron asked about the status of the “Burning bushes” on the Town Common. Mr. Allen said that some work has been done for Town Common improvements. Mr. Allen said that the issue was being investigated. Ms Caron said that she did not know what should replace the “Burning bush”. Deb Paul and Alternate Commissioner Villalona made suggestions for a variety of plant materials that would be attractive for use on the Common from Spring through Fall.

Commissioner Joudrey asked about the *Look Book*. Commissioner Bianchi said that there had been no revisions. Planner Vogl said that he was aware that several people had used the *Look Book*, based upon plan applications made to the Town. Several Commission members noted that the appearances of several new industrial structures in Town were attractive. They attributed this in part to the *Look Book* and the Town’s regulations for plantings and plant materials.

Commissioners Srugis moved and Bianchi seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed 7-0-0 at 7:44 PM.

David Lee Colglazier,  
Secretary

*NB – The noted times of arrival of Commission members after 7:00 PM is not meant to embarrass those people. It is to show that a quorum is present and the number of voters present when the prior meeting minutes are considered. Albeit, I do not note the time when the vote takes place. - DLC*