



North Hampton Heritage Commission
Minutes of Meeting
March 15, 2012
Town Hall

Present: Carolyn Brooks
Paul Cuetara
Jane Currivan
Donna Etela, Chair
Tibbie Field
Jim Maggiore
Cynthia Swank

Excused Absence: Barbara Kohl

1. Etela called the meeting to order at 9:35AM; Alternate Member Field to vote on Feb 16 minutes.

[Reversed items 2 and 3 on agenda, permitting Currivan to vote on minutes and then leave.]

3. Minutes. Minutes were approved as presented.

2. Treasurer's report. \$780.49 remains in the current fiscal year budget. The Heritage Fund balance is \$2036.62. \$942.35, not \$1000, is to be deposited in the Heritage Fund by week's end. Maggiore indicated that the Town will be rectifying any accounting inconsistencies by the end of the fiscal year. The Town Accountant will send financials to both Brooks, Treasurer, and Etela, Chair, prior to the Heritage Commission's monthly meeting.

4. Old Business.

a) **Town Hall / National Register.** The Heritage Commission will be on the March 26th Select Board agenda. Etela, Cuetara, Red Mabey, Building Inspector, Peter Michaud of the Division of Historical Resources, and George Chauncey, Town Hall Building Committee and President of the North Hampton Historical Society will be present.

Etela will request the Board's approval to submit an application for placing the Town Hall on the National Register of Historic Places. Michaud will answer any questions about what the designation means and any ramifications. Mabey, Chauncey and Cuetara can respond to questions about the repair and restoration work that has been done and remains to be done.

If the Select Board supports the nomination effort, Etela will request funding not to exceed \$2000 for Lisa Mausolf's professional services. Maggiore indicated that Mausolf's proposal should be included in the Select Board's packet. Etela and Cuetara can address any questions about a sole source provider for the Town Hall work.

b) Public Information Session. Swank did a test run of a PowerPoint presentation for the March 22nd meeting. Sue Buchanan is going to take photos for some slides where there is now a blank space for the image. [Suggestions made during and after the meeting were: provide link to the individual inventory form; highlight or somehow make it easier for audience to match a line of text on the slide with what's being said.]

[Cuetara left]

Etela outlined the preparations that have been made for the event. Brooks offered to provide baked goods in addition to what Field and Currivan will be bringing.

Number of attendees are not known yet. About ninety letters were mailed and another forty people received email messages. Posters are up in the Clerk's Office, Town Offices, and the Library with flyers also available at the Library and Clerk's Office.

Swank mentioned that Planning Board and School Board had meetings prior to March 22nd and that an in-person invitation to each group might encourage them to have someone present. Maggiore offered to get Phil Wilson to mention the HC event. Swank will attend the School Board meeting.

Etela passed around several good reference books that likely will be useful to members and volunteers for the survey. The first two are available in the Library. They are: *A Building History of Northern New England* by James L. Garvin, *A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia and Lee McAlester, and *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings* by Thomas Durant Visser.

Etela also recommended the National Park Service's *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning*. [Its link is www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb24/index.htm

Attendees will receive all the Heritage Commission brochures and the town's 250th anniversary booklet. On display will be framed copies of the 1857 and 1892 maps, and under glass, the 1953 and perhaps 1940 tax map.

In addition to the sign-up forms, an attendance log will elicit contact information, reducing postage costs for subsequent communications.

Preservation Consultant Lisa Mausolf will be the expert for questions about surveys. She also can field questions from any individuals interested in knowing about applying for State or National Registers for their properties.

New Business

a) **Mooseplate Grant.** Langley Construction has not yet visited and looked at the Town Hall door nor provided a proposal with sufficient detail for the grant application. In the meanwhile, Etela had someone who has done work for historic house museums examine the door; he will provide a proposal by next week. Field will contact Steve Gee and ask him to look at the door and provide a proposal. He, too, has done work for historic house museums. Field will show him a copy of the *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

It is hoped that with a reasonably detailed proposal in hand, a draft grant application can be prepared and sent to the DHR for comments at least several weeks before the grant deadline of April 27.

b) **Master Plan.** Swank recounted the Stratham Heritage Commission Chair's emphasis upon the value of the Historic Resources section of the town's Master Plan in building support and explaining the Commission's activities. North Hampton's 1999 Master Plan does include a section on Historic Resources but the section is not listed in the table of contents. Swank contacted Shep Kroner, Vice Chair (and acting Chair) of the Planning Board; he indicated that the Planning Board would welcome an Historic Resources section, there is no deadline, and whenever it is ready will be fine.

Swank and Etela reviewed the Historic Resources sections of several towns the DHR had noted. Swank then looked at about two dozen available on line. She will send links to the ones she felt by either content, format, or both provide good representative samples on which to pattern the North Hampton Heritage Commission's efforts. Commission members might then discuss at the next regular meeting.

5. Next meeting. Thursday, 4/19/2012 at 9:30AM.

6. Adjourned. 11:20 AM

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary