



Thursday, 17 October 2013  
Heritage Commission Conference Room  
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Carolyn Brooks  
Paul Cuetara  
Donna Etela, Chair  
Cynthia Swank

Alternate Members: Tibbie Field, Jeff Hillier, Jane Robie

Absent: Jim Maggiore, Jane Currivan, Shep Kroner

Also present: Craig Shreck, Cindy Jenkins (Agriculture Commission chair)

1. Call to Order at 9:35 am. Jeff Hillier to vote for Jane Currivan

The first agenda item in Old Business was moved up.

**167 Atlantic Avenue.** Craig Shreck expects to close on the property by mid-November. He gained permission from the current owner for Heritage Commission members to visit the property with him: Etela and Robie went one day; Swank and Currivan another day, touring the house, barn and other outbuildings. Swank and Currivan made two sets of photocopies of the photos they took which members viewed. Swank will put the images on Skydrive.

Etela provided Shreck with Bob Pothier's name and contact information. Pothier is an expert on historic buildings recommended by the NH Preservation Alliance. She also gave Shreck a list of potential organizations to which the Heritage Commission is willing to send out an email message, description and images of the barn.

Jenkins offered to visit the property and prepare a description of the barn. She also indicated she will contact Chet Riley, who is very knowledgeable about barns, and ask him to accompany her. Etela suggested that the visit be coordinated with her so that Lauri Etela, an architect, might visit at the same time to take measurements and draw the existing layout of the house. Prsicilla Leavitt who had visited the house

many times has offered to draw her recollections about the layout of the house. Leavitt remembers the front hall stairs which no longer exist. Swank will contact Leavitt indicating the Commission's interest.

Jenkins will get out a email blast to alert people about availability of the barn and follow up later with the description and photos. Shreck indicated that the house would likely be removed first in order to stake out the driveway and lots but that there may be more time for the disposition of the barn.

Cuetara noted that Steven Decatur of Alton who repairs and restores historic windows, including those on Town Hall, may be interested in the windows; and provided Decatur's phone number 603 - 661-4927.

Shreck left at 9:55AM

Jenkins left at 10AM

2. Treasurer's Report. Etela spent \$55.99 for bottled water and a gas card to give to Maggie Stier, presenter on October 3 of a public event, *Architectural Styles in NH*. Finance Director Tom McCormick happened to be in the building; he was asked about the Heritage Commission's budget line. He indicated that the Select Board has left the Heritage Commission budget line for FY 1914-1915 under the Planning Board. Brooks will follow up with Maggiore for an explanation.

3. Approval of Minutes.. The minutes for the September 19, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

#### 4. Old Business

**Planning Commission/ Master Plan Chapter update.** The Planning Board reviewed the draft demolition review ordinance which its members and the Rockingham Planning Commission circuit rider Jenn Rowden had revised. The Board will discuss again at its next meeting on November 5. After that meeting, the Heritage Commission may need to hold a special meeting and make suggestions prior to the first public hearing of the ordinance. Cuetara indicated that it is helpful to keep definitions broad.

**Survey Update/October 3.** As only one survey volunteer showed up for the presentation, Etela was unable to set up a day and time for discussing the survey process. Anne Pope wrote Etela that she cannot continue with the deed research and has given Currihan her work. The Commission will hold a work session once Cuetara has obtained the property data sorted by date from Vision Appraisal promised for next week.

Mary Kate Ryan of the Division of Historical Resources [DHR] sent the results of the Determination of Eligibility Review Committee for 208, 210, and 223 Atlantic Avenue. The forms seem to indicate all contribute to the National Register-eligible

area but that the changes made to the 208 and 210 Atlantic Avenue buildings prevent them from being individually eligible for the National Register. Swank will follow up with Ryan to clarify.

[Robie left 10:15 AM]

**National Register Nomination/Stone Building update.** The application is now complete and, if the Federal government reopens soon, is scheduled for its first review in late October with a decision by late December.

[Brooks departed 10:30 AM] Field to vote for Brooks.

Peter Michaud of the DHR is aware of the municipal facilities planning. He participated in the Plan NH charrette and had told the others that there should not be a connection between the stone building and the new buildings. The Lavallee Brensinger concept shown on Monday evening's Select Board meeting "eats the building". Michaud recommended to Etela that all interested parties review the National Park Service's Preservation Brief 14 - New exterior additions. [Its URL is <http://www.nps.gov/TPS/how-to-preserve/briefs/14-exterior-additions.htm> ] Town Administrator Paul Apple happened to be in the building and a brief discussion of the possibility of a glass hyphen between old and new buildings ensued.

**Stone Building renovations.** The Town Administrator sent a notice to the town that the ramp is being replaced. A new threshold and door also will be necessary. The other repairs are not being done at this time because of the potential impact of the town facilities effort.

**Plymouth State Intern.** Swank reported that the Plymouth State University faculty advisor for the Historic Preservation program came up with a potential intern. That person is interested in public buildings and Main Street programs. She visited last week and spoke with Apple, Etela and Swank. The potential intern is preparing a proposal for a possible project relating to short and long-range planning for town facilities, rail to trail, and the bridge. Because of the nature of the project, Apple would be the supervisor rather than a member of the Commission.

**HC/HDC Joint meeting Rye September 21.** Swank reported that Becky Mitchell, Chair of the Stratham Heritage Commission, wrote her that the Stratham Commission has agreed to host the next regional meeting, probably in April 2014.

Swank also reported on the Rockingham Planning Commission Master Plan Revision listening session she attended at the Seabrook Library. The RPC recognizes that the historic and cultural resources component has not received sufficient attention. Swank will send to members the past Master Plan documents she had obtained from Rowden. Mitchell thought that Scott Bogle was interested in providing greater assistance to Heritage Commissions. Swank had mentioned the need for survey

help; Mitchell at the session she attended stressed mapping as well as survey assistance.

5. New Business

Etela encouraged all to attend the Dale Farm Open House on October 19, 3 - 5pm. The Commission is among the guests of honor. There will be a house tour at 3:30 & 4:00 conducted by architectural historian Lisa Mausolf .

6. Next Regular Meeting Date & Time. Thursday, Nov 21 at 9:30AM

7. Adjournment. 11:15 AM.

Cynthia G. Swank  
Recording Secretary