



19 December 2013  
Heritage Commission Conference Room  
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Paul Cuetara  
Donna Etela, Chair  
Jim Maggiore  
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Tibbie Field, Jeff Hillier, Shep Kroner, Jane Robie

Absent: Carolyn Brooks, Jane Currivan

Also in attendance: Lloyd Graves, Peter Horne, Rick Stanton

1. Meeting called to order at 9:36 AM. Jane Robie to vote for Jane Currivan; Jeff Hillier for Carolyn Brooks.

2. Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer was absent; and no report provided by Finance.

3. Approval of Minutes. November 21, 2013 minutes were approved; Kroner abstained.

4. Old Business

**Plymouth State Intern Martha Cummings.** Cummings' 120 hour internship concluded last week. Much of her on-site work related to municipal facilities planning under the Town Administrator's direction. Cummings took photos for the Heritage Commission of the interiors of the buildings, Homestead property, railroad bed, and municipal site. She also visited the attic of 237 Atlantic and discovered several artifacts of potential interest and value; she, Etela and Swank brought down some of the materials. There was a brief show and tell. Swank has prepared an inventory which she will distribute. After the holidays, Cummings will submit a report to the Heritage Commission containing information and comments about planning for the rail trail.

**167 Atlantic Ave.** Etela described the outcome of the Heritage and Agriculture Commissions' efforts. There are now floor plans of the house and barn as well as photographs. Both Commissions got out the word of the barn's availability. The barn will be dismantled, moved to Wakefield, NH, and reconstructed. The Agriculture Commission chair encouraged the owner to consider adaptive reuse of the house as a possible gate house, but the building proved to be too far gone.

Chris McInnis contacted Etela indicating that the former owner has historical items he will give to the Heritage Commission; a meeting is being set up.

Some discussion about the history of the property ensued. A timber in the barn indicates it was built in 1867. The house likely dates from that period or earlier. Cuetera recommended a book entitled *A Reverence for Wood* by Eric Sloane as a good information source about wood and woodworking since the earliest settlements.

**Planning Board Demolition Review update.** Etela described the public hearing held by the Planning Board on December 17. She and Swank attended the abbreviated (because of the snowstorm) meeting. The hearing will be continued at the Planning Board's regular meeting on January 7. Everyone should try to attend.

Etela received the day before the hearing a Memorandum addressed to the Planning Board and signed by Chuck Gordon, Don Gould, Craig Salomon, and Rick Stanton opposing the ordinance. She had distributed the document to Commission members as well as her comments in rebuttal. Neither document nor rebuttal were read at the public hearing but Gould, Stanton and she made brief comments about the ordinance. Swank invited anyone in attendance or watching the recording to come to today's Heritage Commission meeting: Rick Stanton, Peter Horne, and Lloyd Graves did so.

Etela explained the development and purpose of the proposed ordinance and why it was necessary. A wide-ranging discussion ensued with Kroner, Cuetera, Maggiore, Hillier, Stanton, Swank and Etela making comments relating to specific wording, practical, political and philosophical concerns, public awareness of the Town's historic resources, importance of a public meeting. Jenn Rowden, the Planning Board's circuit rider, has suggested a wording change to Section D4. Kroner suggested expanding the purpose statement.

[Kroner, Stanton, and Horne departed at 11:05am. Graves had left earlier.]

**Survey Update.** Robie reported that Wendy Crowley has donated to the Commission slides taken in 1987 by one of her classes. Cuetera will borrow a Windows laptop and schedule a time to meet with Robie and Swank to digitize the slides.

Cuetera will provide the assessor's spreadsheet broken down by tax map, street, date of construction. He also is developing information about a Winnicut Road property that may be one of the oldest buildings in town.

**National Register Nomination/Stone Building update.** Etela learned from Peter Michaud of the NH Division of Historical Resources that he submitted the nomination, there will be a 14 day comment period, and a response likely by the end of January.

**Town Campus Facilities.** Several members have attended neighborhood meetings. Maggiore said that there have been a few questions about the stone building and its use. The not to exceed price will be known at the December 23 Select Board meeting.

**Action Items not yet discussed.** Etela learned from the Rockingham Planning Commission that the Heritage Commission may provide additional information about North Hampton's historic resources for the updated Regional Master Plan. Send to Scott Bogle or Jenn Rowden within the next two months.

Maggiore will bring up the Heritage Commission budget line again with Tom.

#### 5. New Business

**72 Atlantic Ave.** As mentioned during the ordinance agenda item, Etela discussed options with the contractor that he will convey to the owner. The construction of an indoor riding ring likely will cause the removal of the house and connected barn. A survey of the buildings, including photographs and floor plans, is underway.

**Spring Regional Meeting Heritage Commissions/Historic District Commissions.** The Stratham Heritage Commission will host a Spring meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 12.

**Carolyn Brown.** Robie reported that Carolyn Brown, who had lived in a house on the site of the School, sent her a note and a copy of a 1975 *Hampton Union* article about the old jail. The copy will be added to the Commission's reference files.

**Newsletter article.** Swank asked for suggestions about the next newsletter article which Etela must submit by the end of the month. It likely will include information about the proposed demolition review ordinance.

Next Meeting Date & Time. Thursday, January 16 at 9:30AM.  
Meeting adjourned at 11:45AM.

Cynthia G. Swank  
Recording Secretary