



20 February 2014
Heritage Commission Conference Room
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Carolyn Brooks
Paul Cuetara
Donna Etela, Chair
Jim Maggiore
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Tibbie Field, Jeff Hillier, Jane Robie

Absent: Jane Currivan, Shep Kroner

Also in attendance: Cindy Jenkins

1. Call to Order at 9:34 AM.

2. Treasurer's Report. No report received since October. Swank has purchased supplies totaling about \$175.

3. Approval of Minutes. January 16, 2014 minutes were approved as written.

4. Old Business

Attic Finds. Swank described her activities relating to the Megaethoscope and slides. Conservation of the slides, rehousing, and digital imaging will cost in the \$15,000 to \$20,000 range. Janet Eklund of the NH State Library suggested doing the work in phases, starting with the ones in worst condition. Make clear in the grant application. Eklund offered the services of the State Library's Reference Department in helping to determine the absence of such equipment and slides in New Hampshire.

Etela, Hillier, Peter Smith of Exeter, and Swank examined the equipment and think it mostly intact although filthy. Swank has been in touch with an object conservator. A stand/legs for the equipment, however, will need to be created.



Swank then described her efforts to ascertain its provenance. Marcy McCann has searched newspapers online. Field will check with the Portsmouth Athenaeum; Cuetara with J. Dennis Robinson and Ralph Morang; and Hiller with Dennis Waters to learn if any are aware of such equipment or slides in New Hampshire or elsewhere in New England; or are aware of public events using such equipment in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Maggiore will check the internet in Italian for perhaps more information about the Megaethoscopio and Alethoscopio in the nineteenth century and how it would have been marketed in the U.S. or to American tourists.

A meeting with the Town Administrator and a Select Board member needs to be scheduled before or as soon as possible after the March election to discuss options, grant prospects and other private funding prospects.

Rail to Trail. Etela emailed to all members the document Martha Cummings prepared. She will resend to Cuetara, and send to Jenkins. Hillier expressed interest in reading and reviewing the various information resources Cummings' provided. Members agreed that the Select Board should consider appointing a committee which includes representatives of Heritage, Agriculture, Conservation, and Recreation Commissions and Planning and Zoning Boards as well as community members, especially those businesses which may benefit from a Rail to Trail project.

167 Atlantic Ave./Gift from Greg Sancioff. Brooks and Currivan have assisted Swank and Parker two Monday mornings in accessioning the materials. Work is not yet completed. Members recognized need to develop policies and procedures relating to such gifts, their acceptance, and disposition.

Demolition Review update/ Demo Review Committee. [combined with the 72 Atlantic Avenue agenda item] On January 21, the Planning Board passed the Demolition Review ordinance. Etela subsequently appointed Maggiore, Swank, and herself as members of the Demolition Review Committee, and Hillier and Robie as Alternates.

The Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer had not been informed that the ordinance was in effect until the March vote; and had issued a demolition permit for 72 Atlantic Avenue. Communications ensued between him and Ben Auger, representative of the owner, and then Auger and Etela. Etela convened a meeting of the Demolition Review Committee on January 27 as the demolition was scheduled for February 5th and



if the Committee wished to hold a public meeting, inviting the public to attend, it needed to decide promptly and post a meeting for Feb 3.

The Committee voted unanimously not to hold a public meeting. Heritage Commission members had visited the property in December, and had the opportunity to take photographs of the exterior and interior, and draw a layout. Etela had offered suggestions for the possible moving of the building. The owner had sent a Q & A to the abutters outlining what they had done to find alternatives to demolition and what they hoped to construct on the property. Jenkins pointed out that in this case the Town was gaining agriculture land.

A discussion ensued about the draft minutes of the Demolition Review Committee. Swank will clarify a sentence relating to future procedures; and if the ordinance passes in March, the Committee will work out procedures for meetings and documentation, possibly asking other Heritage Commissions for input.

Survey Update. Jane Boesch reviewed the letter to be sent to Wendy Crowley for the slides she gave the Commission. Cuetara, Robie, and Swank will arrange a mutually agreeable time to try to scan the slides. Disposition of the slides remains open until the Commission has developed policies and procedures for acceptance and disposition of gifts.

Cuetara obtained from Chief Cote a copy of the Road Book put together by the Assessor's Office and Fire Department. Cuetara has not yet scheduled an interview with Cedric Dustin about 59 Winnicut Road. Swank asked that he also ask about Harry Naves' painting business which Brooks indicated was located at 72 Atlantic Avenue. Cuetara will inform Brooks when he has scheduled an interview day and time.

Swank submitted the 228 Atlantic Avenue individual inventory form completed by Robie to the NH Division of Historical Resources for its records and submission to the Determination of Eligibility Committee.

National Register Nomination/Stone Building. The Commission received word that the former North Hampton Library at 237 Atlantic Avenue was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 5th. Swank will put the nomination papers on Skydrive; Etela will email to anyone who wishes.



Celebration of the naming will likely be in June, and include a book fair and car show. Etela contacted John Savastano for information and advice about an antique car show; and learned that the American Legion had run one at the Hampton Airfield. She will speak with Joe Kutt. Cuetara recommended learning the dates already taken for car shows in the region. Bill Carlson and Lloyd Graves were mentioned as other possible contacts and entrants.

Etela looked to Robie to assist with the book fair which likely would be held at Town Hall. Swank has informed the Library Director, Assistant Director, and Friends of the Library officers of the celebration event. The Friends were given paintings for which they hope to hold a silent auction; and the Library Director has about twenty books she thinks are worth more than the \$1 a book Library book sale price.

A committee including more than Commission members must be set up. There likely will be a special meeting where members should be prepared with ideas and names of people.

Town Campus Facilities. Maggiore reported that Citizens for 7 with Sue Hills as the fiscal agent has been set up and will be producing flyers urging a yes vote. There likely will be email blasts, mailings, and information on the Town website. There was a consensus that other than Select Board, Library Trustees, and Budget Committee, voters were not likely to notice whether other boards had voted in support.

Hillier thought voters might want to know who are Citizens for 7; and asked whether the School supports the Town Campus. Maggiore indicated that the School Board did not think it appropriate for them to be involved in such a manner. The next mailer will address questions relating to the school and the Town Campus.

Rockingham Master Plan update of historic resources for North Hampton. Etela and Hillier will get together and bring a draft to the March meeting.

Nominations and Terms. Brooks informed Etela after the February meeting that she was willing to step down as a Member and become an Alternate Member. Robie has agreed to become a Member in Brooks' place. Hillier and Field indicated that they are willing to remain Alternates for another year. There is space for a fifth alternate. Jenkins, Marcy McCann, and Paul Marquis were suggested as possible candidates. Jenkins was willing to consider if a Heritage Commission member joins the Agriculture



Commission; Swank will contact Marquis and learn if he is willing to attend the March meeting.

Drake Farm. A January 16 meeting attended by Etela and Swank discussed Federal tax incentives relating to the rehabilitation of an historic property. Peter Michaud of the NH Division of Historical Resources provided advice to a potential buyer of the property and his representatives. The current owner, Town Administrator, Fire Chief, and Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer all participated. Contact information for Lisa Mausolf was provided if the buyer decides to pursue a National Register listing.

5. New Business

40 Ocean Blvd. Swank informed the group that Brian Thibeault has purchased the Studebaker Mansion and plans to restore it. He and his wife had visited the Library seeking information about the house; Swank showed up shortly after the Thibeault's visit and Lorreen Keating asked for her assistance. Swank provided information for which Thibeault was grateful. This inquiry suggests the need of better communications between the Heritage Commission and the Little Boar's Head Heritage Commission: having contact information for each other's members, and learning about the information resources that each may have.

6. Next Meeting Date & Time. Regular meeting. Thursday, March 20 at 9:30AM. No day or time determined for a special meeting to discuss celebration .

7. Adjournment at 11:53 AM.

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary