

As approved at
15 Oct 2015 meeting



Thursday, September 17, 2015
Heritage Commission Conference Room
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Paul Cuetara
Donna Etela, Chair
Jim Maggiore
Jane Robie
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Vicki Jones, Nancy Monaghan

Absent: Jane Currivan, Carolyn Brooks, Jeff Hillier

The meeting was properly posted.

1. Call to Order at 9:40am .
Designation of voting. Jones for Currivan.
2. Treasurer's Report. Accepted as prepared. Moved by Robie, seconded by Cuetara.
3. Approval of Minutes. Swank noted she had corrected the time of Jones' departure from 10:32 to 11:32. Minutes as amended approved. Moved by Cuetara, seconded by Robie.
4. Old Business
Rails to Trails update. Maggiore reported that the Town has sent a tax bill to Pan Am. Cuetara provided updates on several action items. He had not reached Chris Robie. Jane Robie provided contact information. Cuetara was able to obtain only one copy of the maps which he has mounted. There will be a section in the Master Plan about recreation and including the rail trail but it has not yet been prepared.
Town Campus Facilities. The Fifth Municipal Facilities Committee will now be reporting its recommendations and the dollar figures at the September 28th Select Board meeting. Maggiore said there will be a public hearing on October 5th and the Board may vote at its conclusion.

Grant Applications. Swank reported that the *Mooseplate grant* for conservation of some of the Megaethoscope albumen print "slides" was approved by the NH Council on the Arts. An official letter should arrive soon now that the State budget has been approved. She has informed Northeast Document Conservation Center. Maggiore and Robie each offered to transport the prints to NEDCC in Andover, MA .

Jones plans to contact the Division of Historical Resources to learn how soon it expected to decide about the *Pre-disaster planning grant*. Etela offered ideas about matching funding involving both this Commission, Little Boar's Head Heritage Commission, and the Town if the grant were unsuccessful. Maggiore indicated that the Commission would need to prepare a proposal for him to bring to the full Select Board.

LBH HC request 10/07 [moved up before Centennial Hall item]. Etela urged all members to attend the showing of *Flats, Shacks & Claws* on October 7 at Town Hall at 7pm and to encourage others. LBH Heritage Commission is hosting the event which includes the documentary's filmmaker.

Etela will contact the LBH Heritage Commission to schedule the Commissions' joint meeting for October or November.

Centennial Hall. Etela reported that she and Swank met with Marcy McCann, President of the Friends of Centennial Hall, about the National Register nomination and rehabilitation work on the building to make it possible to use the second floor for public events. She asked Maggiore to involve the Town Administrator in setting up a meeting similar to the one held for Drake Farm where he, the Code Enforcement Officer, and Fire Chief would meet with Centennial Hall representatives and their contractor and Peter Michaud of the Division of Historical Resources so that everyone gets the same information.

Action Items. Monaghan spoke with Phil Wilson about the need to consider and promote the economic development benefits of the rail trail.

5. New Business

Newsletter. Etela wrote an article for the Community Newsletter. A discussion of the possible demise of the newsletter (Lorreen Keating is leaving the NHPL to become children's librarian at the New London Public Library), and communication difficulties with the Friday Folder ensued.

275th Anniversary of North Hampton. 2017 will be the 275th anniversary of the town. Etela had reviewed that events held for the 250th anniversary in 1992. Swank reported she had alerted the Town Administrator about the 275th; Maggiore noted the budget line for patriotic purposes.

Capital Improvement Budget. Swank stated that the Town Administration's expected capital projects include work on the exteriors of the two Town-owned historic buildings: the original Library (stone building) and Town Hall. Repair of the front stairs and repointing for the stone building, possibly this fiscal year, and repair of the clapboards and

repainting of Town Hall, scheduled for FY2018. A member of the Capital Improvement Plan Committee had remarked on the need to replace like with like. She has given Apple contact information for Steve Bedard and suggested that the Town hire someone who is an expert to assess both buildings and provide a work plan and estimates. Bedard prepared such a report for Kingston which they used in applying for an LCHIP [Land and Community Heritage Investment Program] grant and in maintenance planning for the Highway Department.

Cuetara offered to provide other names of historic restoration firms. He indicated that the Select Board has voted twice to perform appropriate rehabilitation work on Town Hall.

Jones moved, Robie seconded, a motion, approved unanimously, for the Commission to write a letter in support of professional assessments of the stone building and Town Hall that provide a description of the repairs necessary and appropriate for these historic buildings and which might be used for an LCHIP grant. Jones volunteered to draft a letter.

Seacoast HC/HDC. Exeter was to host the next seacoast meeting. Etela contacted the person in Exeter and received no response. Swank will ask one of the members of the Kingston Heritage Commission whether that Commission might step in to host the event.

Barn Easements. [not on agenda]. Cuetara asked about barn easements and whether an application might be made before ownership of a barn changed and the building was moved to a new location. Etela stated it would not be possible and noted that the deadline each year is April 15th.

6. Next Meeting Date & Time. Thursday, October 15 at 9:30am, location TBD.

7. Adjournment. 11:10 am.

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary