Approved as prepared 19 Nov 2015 meeting



Little Boar's Head HC/North Hampton HC 15 October 2015 Executive Conference Room, Town Offices 233A Atlantic Avenue

Present:
Paul Cuetara [arrived at 10:25am]
Jane Currivan
Donna Etela, Chair
Jim Maggiore
Jane Robie
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Carolyn Brooks, Jeff Hillier, Vicki Jones

Absent: Nancy Monaghan

LBH members: Bob Hamilton, Joyce Hamilton, Debbie Kanner, John Latham Knapp,

Margaret Schoenberger

Invited guest: Lisa Mausolf, architectural historian /historic preservation consultant

1. The meeting was properly posted. Call to Order at 9:35. Jones to vote for Cuetara.

[Item 2 Treasurer's Report and Item 3 Approval of Minutes moved to later in the meeting]

4. **Discussion with Lisa Mausolf.** Etela distributed a portion of the grant application for a FEMA pre-disaster planning grant of \$14,500 which will enable the Commission to pay Lisa Mausolf to conduct a town-wide historic resources survey. Also included is funding for Rockingham Planning Commission [RPC] to provide mapping services. The entire grant application is available on the Commission's OneDrive. Swank will provide the link.

Mausolf noted that the survey will provide a broad brush view of the historic resources in North Hampton. She noted that the town has a good town history and that her previous work in North Hampton including Little Boar's Head means she already has background information. The survey will give an overview of the entire community and how North Hampton developed. It will complement master planning, and emergency management planning by noting priority areas. For those individual properties on the National Register, the survey could be helpful in gaining financial assistance after a disaster.

Mausolf intends to check with the NH Division of Historical Resources to obtain its latest area form (apparently being revised). She requested that she be given a letter and badge so

that homeowners and others are not alarmed by seeing someone taking photos from the public roadway. A member noted the opportunity for publicizing the effort.

Etela asked the LBH HC members to select a couple of people to act as liaisons with Mausolf. In answer to several questions, Mausolf noted that the project entails archival research and field work. It will take into account wetlands and how they may have changed over time. The most up to date map from RPC will guide her on the changes. A member noted that the map hanging in the Conference Room is old and no longer completely accurate. Aerial photographs also could be helpful. The survey will include cemeteries. Etela noted that the Assessor's database has many properties listed as built in 1900 when they did not know the date and that others have been found to be inaccurate. Mausolf will correct date inaccuracies she finds on the Commission's color-coded maps that were based on the Assessor's database.

Bob Hamilton displayed and passed around a book entitled *Historical Salisbury Houses* which includes photographs, deed research, and historical narrative about historic properties. He thought a future project based on the survey might be the compilation of such a publication and noted its value to homeowners and others. The possibility of self publishing *via* Amazon could make the undertaking more economical than in the past.

The group thanked Jones for all her work in preparing the grant application. [Mausolf left]

5. **Any other business proposed by LBH HC**. Knapp has observed that there are no street signs for Atlantic Avenue. Maggiore noted the timeliness of the topic as the Select Board was considering reducing the street sign budget line. He asked if there were other suggestions. Members thought there were no Exeter Road signs and no signs marking the bikeway on Atlantic Avenue.

Joyce Hamilton, chair of the LBH Planning Board, announced that demolition review was passed as part of the new zoning laws and is now in effect. Demolition permit applicants would go to the LBH Zoning Inspector. Etela explained the North Hampton HC's process and that the applicable LBH tax maps in the color coded spreadsheet of the Assessor's database would be useful to the Zoning Inspector and Commission. [Cuetara arrived 10:25am]

There was some discussion of public hearings for impending demolition of historic buildings as well as the posting of notice and agenda of meetings for Town boards. Maggiore noted that the Select Board meets annually with the LBH Commissioners.

## 6. Old Business

**Rails to Trails update.** Cuetara stated that there is a regional meeting tonight. They are planning to do a video recorded physical survey from Lamie's in Hampton to Portsmouth. It was noted that people are already using the abandoned rail bed. It was suggested that the Town should post signs that people are traveling at their own risk. 6.2 miles of the rail bed are in North Hampton.

**Town Campus Facilities.** Maggiore explained this Summer's activities after the failure in March to obtain a 60% vote in favor of the plan. By a 2-1 vote, the Select Board approved doing the project in phases over three years and having the Library go first and onto the former Homestead property. At its next meeting, the Select Board will discuss phasing of the other buildings as well as a motion to rescind the Select Board vote. ILBH HC left

[Hillier left 11:32am]

- 2. Treasurer's Report. Approved as prepared (Jones moved, Maggiore seconded)
- 3. Minutes of Sep 17, 2015. Approved as amended. (Maggiore moved, Cuetara seconded)

Resume 6. Old Business

**Grant Applications.** Swank reported that the successful Mooseplate grant must be approved by the Attorney General and Governor's Council before money is awarded. It likely will take one to two months.

**Centennial Hall**. Etela reported on a tour of Centennial Hall which she had arranged and which she and Swank attended. The President of the Friends of Centennial Hall, Marcy McCann, and board member Sue Brooks along with the Hall's contractor described the restoration work already done and next projects they wish to accomplish. They asked for the comments and advice of the Town Administrator, Fire Chief, Assistant Building Inspector, and Director of Public Safety. The meeting went well.

Thanks to the work already done on the architectural and historical narrative of the building, Centennial Hall is ready to hire Mausolf to prepare its National Register application. The Hall has already been designated by the NH DHR as eligible.

**275th Town Anniversary.** Maggiore will add the topic to the Select Board agenda. Suggested groups that might be involved in the planning and implementation of the celebration were: North Hampton Business Association, North Hampton School, Boy Scouts, North Hampton Public Library, UCC Church, PASA [Programs for Active Senior Adults], Friends of Centennial Hall, North Hampton Historical Society, the two Heritage Commissions, Police Department, and Fire Department.

## **Action Items**

Swank announced that Kingston Heritage Commission meets next week and will discuss hosting the next regional Heritage/Historic District Commissions meeting in Spring 2016.

- 6. Next Meeting Date & Time. Thursday, Nov 19 at 9:30am.
- 7. Adjournment. 12:01pm

Cynthia G. Swank Recording Secretary