

North Hampton

Heritage
Commission

20 October 2016
Heritage Commission Conference Room
237 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Jane Currivan
Donna Etela, Chair

Jim Maggiore (9:39)
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Carolyn Brooks, Jeff Hillier (10:28), Vicki Jones, Nancy Monaghan

Absent: Paul Cuetara, Jane Robie

Also in attendance: (after 10am) Lisa Mausolf, historic preservation consultant; Debbie Kanner, Schoenberger, Little Boar's Head Heritage Commission

1. The meeting was properly posted. The Chair called it to order at 9:30am. Jones to vote for Robie; Brooks for Cuetara.

2. Treasurer's Report. Currivan had sent reports in advance of the meeting. Cornwell will absorb the \$1835 for last fiscal year. For tracking expenditures in the future, submit bill to Cornwell directly but send scan of request and receipt to Currivan. Cornwell suggested budgeting for any expected projects costing significant money. Jones moved, Brooks seconded that the Treasurer's report be approved. Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes. Sept 15th meeting minutes as prepared were approved unanimously. Jones moved, Currivan seconded.

4. Old Business

Meeting Date and Time. Etela encouraged all to use their "indoor voices" and asked that if there are any complaints about the Commission's meetings noise, please inform her.

EBI Section 106. Etela received a response from EBI that project is on hold.

Etela noted that a consultant working for NH DOT had contacted North Hampton Historical Society for information about Drake's Hill and specifically the bridge at that location. Maggiore confirmed that the person has not contacted the Select Board and there is no update to NH DOT's 10 year plan as far as he knows. NH DOT has not notified the Heritage Commission despite it being listed several years ago as a consulting party. There also is no update on purchase by State of the railroad corridor.

Megaethoscope Update. Swank reported that the display and demonstration of the Megaethoscope at the Manchester Historic Association went well. She asked that at least two members learn how to use the equipment; she simply stuck to the basics. The protective display

case has been delivered and the equipment is now on display in Town Offices. She will prepare an identifying label.

275th Town Anniversary. Jones reported that a two pronged celebration is being planned. The committee intends to ask the Select Board and Joe Kutt as a representative of the American Legion post if anniversary events can be part of the Memorial Day parade and ceremony. On that day, there also would be exhibits in the stone building and Town Hall, at least one with a military theme.

Then, over the long weekend of October 13-15, the North Hampton Business Association would have a three day open house and various iconic buildings will be open and trolley tours offered. Hayrides or oxcart rides may be offered at one of the local farms and, perhaps, that evening or later in the Fall a harvest dinner at an appropriate venue. A non-denominational service at the UCC church also would be in keeping with the founding of the town.

The Historical Society, partnering with the school, hopes to do video oral histories throughout the year. Other ideas include the Town hanging banners in the Town Hall/Depot area and North Hill. Kanner arrived and Jones reprised some of her remarks; she will send Kanner 275th committee meeting notices so that LBH can be more fully involved.

Maggiore asked that Jones provide him with a summary for the Monday, October 24th Select Board meeting. Jones will schedule a meeting with Apple. The committee would like some seed money.

HC/HDC October 15, 2016 Update. Jones reported that the low response - only nine to perhaps eleven caused the cancellation of the regional meeting. Either the same three town will try again in the Spring; Swank will ask her contact in Kingston if its Heritage Commission is willing. Nadine Miller of the NH DHR noted that there is a symposium focusing on Section 106 October 28 in Concord.

[Schoenberger and Mausolf arrive]

FEMA Grant. [moved up].

Maggiore indicated that the town's hazard mitigation plan must be updated every 5 years and the deadline is June 2017. It will include historic resources. It was suggested and agreed upon that the historic resources map, possibly revised to include town cemeteries and mill sites, could be included as an appendix.

Lisa Mausolf thought her town-wide area survey of historic resources will be far enough along that those historic resources that should be described in the plan itself will have been identified and agreed upon. Her timetable is: draft by March; comments and DHR review; final report by July. Mausolf asked for a copy of the latest wetlands map and areas prone to flooding.

When asked, Mausolf noted iconic areas of town such as North Hill and Town Hall/Depot, and Little Boar's Head as candidates for inclusion. She then described the components of a town-wide area form: historical section describing the evolution of the town and its distinct periods; an architectural section describing what is still here - farms, mills, village centers - by period; illustrations in the form of maps and historic photographs; and a bibliography.

[Hillier arrives]

Mausolf noted there is an excellent Masters thesis at the Library about late nineteenth farming in North Hampton.

The conversation turned to the inquiry about Drake's Hill bridge. Mausolf spoke with NH DOT and learned that the Preservation Company is working with an engineering firm, not directly with NH DOT. She will investigate.

Contractual obligations, quarterly reports, and billing times were discussed. Money has been encumbered; the town will not receive the FEMA grant money until next fiscal year.

Schoenberger indicated that proposed major renovations to an historic house in Little Boar's Head triggered FEMA regulations regarding flooding; and the costs were such that the house is going to be demolished. Mausolf requested the LBH wetlands map.

[Brooks left]

Mausolf asked about other changes on LBH since her work in the 1990s resulting in its designation as National Historic District. Schoenberger noted another case where a property is being subdivided, a shed will be demolished but a barn retained and split with only a few feet between the two parts. The owner has indicated the LBH Heritage Commission can save as much it wants but storage is an issue. It was suggested that a wall exhibit case in Town Hall might be an appropriate location.

Mausolf will attend the December 15th meeting of the Heritage Commission. She would like to tour the cemeteries with Paul Apple and Kendall Chevalier as had originally been intended but not yet scheduled.

Budget. Covered in Treasurer's report.

Action Items. None.

5. New Business

Hazard Mitigation/Historical Resources. Covered in FEMA grant item.

Eastern RR Survey request. Covered in EBI Section 106 and FEMA grant items.

6. Next Meeting Date & Time. Thursday, Nov 17th at 9:30 am.

7. Adjournment. at 11:20am

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary