

Kensington Heritage Commission Meeting

November 30, 2022

Minutes- **DRAFT**

The meeting was held in person at the Town Hall. The meeting was posted on the Town's website, so the public was able to attend.

In Attendance:

Present: Regular Members: Lynne Monroe, Chair; Meghan Gross, Secretary; Bob Gustafson, Treasurer and Selectmen's Representative

Alternates: Frank Whittemore, Elaine Kaczmarek, Joni Praded

Absent: Planning Board Representative; Steven Mallory; Alan Tuthill

Call to order at 7:08 PM

Minutes: The minutes from the October 26 meeting were reviewed. Frank Whittemore made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bob Gustafson. Approved unanimously. Joni Praded abstained.

OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS

Grange: The roof has some leaking caused by snow load. The trustees applied for help to fix it through the town's insurance and are waiting to hear back from the insurance company. Local roofer, Steve Nickologianes, is going to do a temporary fix for the leaks before the winter weather starts. Jesse Turgeon will be repairing a rafter that needs to be put back in place also before the end of the year. Trustees are preparing a warrant article asking for annual maintenance costs plus special costs. They are demonstrating that the building is going in a positive direction to encourage townspeople to support the warrant article. The Board of Selectmen and Heritage Commission can voice their support for the warrant article at the meeting. Suggestion to talk to Kathy Felch to see if it's possible to put a note that the HC supports the warrant article on the ballot. Figuring out the best use of the Grange is a goal for the coming year. Grange Trustees will host a roundtable discussion meeting to talk about the building's future. Trustees will organize the discussion and figure out a date to get people together. Joni Praded was asked and is willing to moderate.

Union Meetinghouse: Official LCHIP decision will be announced in December.

Town Center:

The Heritage Commission would like work on issues relating to the Town Center. One idea is to host meetings to resume the conversation begun at the Plan NH Charette. There was a discussion of signage at either end of town center, traffic calming solutions, cross walks. Lynne is willing to talk to DOT to start the conversation about that portion of the charette results. Deliberative session in February, Town Meeting in March.

NEW BUSINESS

Neighborhood Heritage Districts: Lynne sent a handbook to members to review about creating Neighborhood Heritage Districts as an idea for Kensington to encourage smart development patterns while preserving community character. Members discussed the possibility of creating

one or more of these districts in Kensington. The merit of having such districts is evident, however, after looking at some of the procedures for creating such districts, it did not seem an effective tool for Kensington. It would be good to have a Planning Board Member on the Heritage Commission.

Other Business: Meghan was approached by a private citizen who might be interested in moving the McCarthy house on Moulton Ridge off the property. She is working on getting the citizen and property owner in touch. Meghan was also approached by a private citizen who would like to purchase the deteriorating Federal-style house on Route 150 (Locke-Brown Tavern) but owners were not responsive and not open to discussion of sale. HC members discussed what else might be done to convince owner to save the house, demolition by neglect. Bob would like Meghan to send him the address.

Elaine Kaczmarek made a motion to adjourn at 8:05pm; Frank Whittemore seconded it.
Approved unanimously.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 28, 2022, 7:00 at the Town Hall.
