

# Kensington Heritage Commission Meeting

June 28, 2023

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; Steven Mallory

*Alternates:* Elaine Kaczmarek; Joni Praded; Frank Whittemore,

*Absent:* Alan Tuthill

Call to order at 7:08 PM

Minutes: The minutes from the May 25 meeting were reviewed. Bob Gustafson made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Elaine Kaczmarek. Approved unanimously.

## **BUSINESS**

Grange: Roof repairs have been completed and interior plaster repairs and painting can now commence. A land survey was completed by the abutting landowner, and it was discovered that the access road on the north side of the building is within the Grange property boundaries, not within the cemetery, as previously thought. Septic is located on the south side of the building. There is a very good possibility the septic is not up to code. Wi-Fi was approved by the BOS and will be set up within the month of July. The library book sale will be held as usual in August. An artist's fair is being planned for September 23. Grange Trustees were also approached to host a contra dance in September.

Union Meetinghouse: A service is being planned for Old Home Day Sunday (8/20) and possibly two other Sundays this summer. The Congregational Church pastor, Jeff, will lead the Old Home Day service. Steven has been in communication with Andover Organ Company and they have suggested a mechanical action organ be installed in the sanctuary rather than an electrical organ due to the the unheated space. They have an organ for sale and have suggested that it can be rented for the season to see if it works in the space, all delivery and setup included. An 1806 English chamber organ is also for sale from a church in Cambridge, MA. Historically, the Meetinghouse likely had a bass viol played at services. There is a bass viol on display in the Sawyer Room in the library that may have been used in the building.

Library: Elaine and Frank reported that the library lot has been surveyed. Soil tests have been performed and the lot is approved for an addition.

National Register Nomination: The Town Center Historic District nomination should be submitted soon. Joni volunteered to help with any other additions or changes that are needed prior to submittal.

Town Center: Lynne will contact NHDOT to get the ball rolling on meeting about sidewalks, crosswalks, etc. in downtown area.

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Old Home Day: Will be held on August 19 this year. There will be no road race this year so an historic walking tour in the morning is probably a better option. Last year the 2pm tour was hot. Meghan will talk to Rec Committee to find out what the best timing may be in the morning.

Historical Society: The windows have been reinstalled on the north elevation at the North School.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Other Business: Bob talked about walking an old stagecoach road called Skunk Road. Meghan mentioned finding old leather shoe pieces on the trail across from the park. They are currently housed in her freezer and she wants to find out what year it was made and if it was made in Kensington.

Lynne asked the Commission members if they'd be interested in writing some more historical pieces, like the stories mentioned above, for the Community Newsletter. The stories could tie in why the Heritage Commission is important and what we can do for the town!

Frank Whittemore made a motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm; Steven Mallory seconded it. Approved unanimously.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 7:00 at the Town Hall.

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