

## Kensington Heritage Commission Meeting

June 24, 2020

Minutes – **DRAFT**

The meeting was held virtually using the Town's Zoom platform. The meeting was posted on the Town's website so the public was able to attend. Kathleen Felch, Town Administrator, hosted the meeting so that anyone who called in or wished to join could do so easily.

Lynne Monroe read the Checklist to Ensure Meetings are Compliant with the Right-to-Know Law During the State of Emergency.

### **In Attendance:**

*Present:* Regular Members: Lynne Monroe, chair, Bob Solomon, selectmen's representative and treasurer; Bob Gustafson, Mike Schwotzer, Planning Board Representative, and Kathleen Felch, town administrator; Alternate Members: Frank Whittemore and Elaine Kaczmarek, secretary

*Absent:* Regular Members: Steven Mallory and Alan Tuthill, Alternates: Ben Cole and Lorraine O'Keefe

Call to order at 6:20 PM

Minutes review from 5/27/20 meeting: Bob Gustafson noted two typos. Frank Whittemore made a motion to accept the minutes with these corrections and Elaine Kaczmarek seconded. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Facebook Page

The Community News article encouraged people to use the walking tour booklet to enjoy the buildings in the Town Center. Lynne left several in a box on the steps of the Library. The link to the booklet is posted on the Library website for use on smart phones and tablets. The article was posted on the Commission's FaceBook page. Lynne will keep posting fun historic pictures and historic articles. She asks members to send her any ideas. We'd like the town to be able to help us post larger documents; Joe may be able to help.

#### *Action:*

Commission members will send fun and interesting items to Lynne for posting.

#### Rec Committee and Old Home Day Discussion:

Because all of the activities that the Commission planned for Old Home Days involved large groups of people gathering or touring private homes the Commission felt that they should not participate in the celebration this year. Unanimous vote by roll call.

#### Library:

Elaine reported that there is no new news regarding the library addition as the effort is on hold. Frank reported that they are installing carpet in the Sawyer Room. There will be a layer of luan over the historic flooring so that the action is reversible.

*No Action*

Library National Register Nomination:

The Library has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places! A link to the document will be placed on the Library webpage and Elaine will take it to the trustees to decide whether or not to accept a bronze plaque like the others in town to commemorate it.

Parsonage:

The new homeowner is an architect who is interested in the history of the house and has met with Lorraine and Joan at the library. She liked the flyer that we prepared! We will try to talk with her.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Lynne posed the possibility of listing the Town Center on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district. There are four buildings already listed individually, the Universalist Church, the Town Hall, the Library and the North School. The Congregational Church is listed on the NH State Register. Listing on the National Register is honorific only, it does not impose restrictions unless a resource is threatened by a Federally licensed or funded project. As people are sometimes threatened by the word “district” the decision was made to present the idea to the selectmen as a start.

Frank reported that Robert and Barbara Evans, both originally from Kensington, had approached the Historical Society about donating a trailer of old farm equipment. The machinery was from the Evans and Sargent farms in Kensington. They would like to see it displayed, but at present there is no venue for that. Lynne mentioned that there is an abundance of relics of our agricultural heritage in addition to this gift that could contribute to a museum. Discussion ensued about possibilities. Alan Tuthill is willing to store things in his barn and let people in to see them by appointment, which would work to solve the immediate problem. The Grange was thought to be an excellent possibility for a farm museum given our agricultural heritage and its unused state. The suggestion was made that Frank approach the Historical Society to see if they would work together with the Heritage Commission on this issue. Mike made a motion to support this project and seconded by Elaine, voted unanimously by roll call.

Frank made a motion to adjourn at 7pm, seconded by Lynne. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

**Next meeting will be July 22, 2020 at 6:15pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Kaczmarek, secretary  
Lynne Monroe, chair