

Kensington Heritage Commission Meeting

November 21, 2019

Minutes – **DRAFT**

In Attendance:

Present: Regular Members: Lynne Monroe, chair, Bob Gustafson, Bob Solomon, treasurer

Alternate Members: Elaine Kaczmarek, Frank Whittemore

Ex-officio: Mike Schwotzer, Planning Board Representative

Absent: Regular Members: Meghan Gross, secretary, Steven Mallory

Alternates: Lorraine O'Keefe, Alan Tuthill, Ben Cole

Ex-officio: Joe Pace, Selectmen Representative

Call to order at 7:11 PM

As there was a quorum, no alternates were needed.

Minutes:

Elaine Kaczmarek moved and Bob Gustafson seconded to approve the minutes from the September 17 meeting as amended. Approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Universalist Church:

As Ben Cole was absent, there was not much discussion. There was discussion that the Heritage Commission can hold property, but we will need to enable a Heritage Fund at the next Town Meeting. It appears that this might be an excellent reason to establish a fund.

Action: Commission will keep this item on the agenda indefinitely and work with Ben to come up with the most appropriate plans for the building's future. Ben will copy and distribute existing rehab plans to Commission members. *This has not happened yet.*

New Members:

We have the maximum number of members allowed by statute!!

Report on Carl Rezendes:

Brief discussion that a bench of some elegance in the Library garden would be good.

Action: Elaine will bring it up to the Library Trustees. Lynne stressed that the bench must be carefully chosen as Carl was very particular about such things!!

Facebook Page

Action: Lynne will post some things to the page. Carl's piece, the Parsonage flyer, Barn Easements?

Rec Committee:

Meghan emailed her report:

I did go to the Rec and Social Committee meeting last week and here's my short report:

They are very amenable to the idea of having the committee and the commission work together, along with other committees in town. We all discussed the benefits of speaking to

one another and being able to work on projects together. As of now, they do not have many plans that would require involvement from us, but they will start discussing the Old Home Days celebration in January and would like us to be a part of the weekend. I suggested a walking tour and they loved the idea, but I'm sure we can think of other ways to be involved with the celebration. They will have a meeting January 8 at 7pm at the town hall to start discussions about the celebration and will invite other town committees and entities to be involved as well. There was also the suggestion of getting together a community calendar to share events and ideas.

Action: There was much discussion of the Old Home Day possibility. Historic house tours, Walking tours. Lynne will send some information from the NH Preservation Alliance and bring Donald Hall's book for show and tell. We will all attend the January 7th meeting for discussion.

Library Addition:

Elaine reported that there was no news regarding the addition this month.

Library National Register Nomination:

The draft nomination has been submitted to the NH Division of Historical Resources. Lynne will check on the progress.

Plan NH:

Lynne distributed the Plan NH report to the Commission members by email. Kathy says there are no issues prohibiting the distribution of the report and will eventually upload it to the town website. There are several issues relevant to the town center that are of interest to the Heritage Commission. This material is the PowerPoint presentation. Frank remembers that there was a book and that he'd seen it at Carl's.

Action: Bob will reconnect with Kathy about the book and Lynne will call Carl's sister.

Barn Easements:

Question: How do we encourage barn owners to utilize the easement?

Action: Lynne distributed barn easement information to Commission members and will again. She will suggest a date for a work session and see who can come help pick out barn owners to contact. Bob suggested that a coaching session might be good.

Contra Dances:

Elaine spoke to Glen Coppleman about bringing the Friday Night Dance to Kensington. Glenn said that they are able to pay only around \$50/per night as that's what they've been paying in Kingston. He has now obtained an insurance policy that covers the dances. He and Elaine will go to the selectmen on December 2nd and ask about having the regular Saturday dances at the Town Hall.

Action: Elaine will try to get us on the December 2nd agenda for a selectman's meeting and she and Glen will talk with the Selectmen about hosting the dances in the town hall.

Parsonage:

Universalist Church Parsonage is for sale. Lynne made a flyer about the history and that the commission is available to help. She gave it to Donna Carter to give to prospective buyers.

Town Hall Sign

There was some discussion that we should suggest to the selectmen that they could talk with the Heritage Commission before making changes that affect the Town Center. We have professionals on the Commission who could be helpful. Lynne will be having a meeting with Joe Pace and bring it up then.

NEW BUSINESS

Heritage Commission webpage.

Ben Cole offered to lead this effort, but no action to date. This is desirable so that we can post links to large documents of interest to townspeople like the Architectural Resources of Kensington and the Master Plan chapter on Historic Resources.

Master Plan

There is a Historic Resources chapter in the Master Plan. Lynne sent a link and suggested that we become familiar with it.

OTHER BUSINESS

At 8:27 Frank Whittemore called for a motion to adjourn; Elaine Kaczmarek seconded.
Approved unanimously.

Next meeting will be December 19, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Monroe, chair