

HAMPSTEAD HISTORIC DISTRICT/HERITAGE COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
Minutes – 2/4/22

Meeting came to order at 7:06 PM EST at the Hampstead Museum
Weather: Light rain and 40 deg F

Members Present:

Rob Morris (Chair), John Kelley, and Joe Passanise

Rob got an email from Sally T. reminding us to be prompt in getting our meeting minutes to Tina.

Museum

Rob said he talked to the roofer at Lane Roofing and asked if he fixed the leak in the roof. He said yes. Rob and Joe P. plan to scrape and paint the area where the leak stained the ceiling.

Rob said the Hampstead Historical Society plans to replace some of the window shades using \$500 they received from an anonymous donor. Fran is leading the effort.

Rob said that the interior walls in the library and office need to be painted during 2022. He suggested that the commission keep this on the to do list.

Rob said that there is money in the 2022 Town Budget for exterior painting. He will need to get quotes from painters in the coming months.

Rob received the \$2650 bill from electrical contractor Matthew J. Strobel of Hampstead for the work he did in May. The work included 1) removal of existing fluorescent pendant lights and the wiring and installation of 12 hanging light fixtures and a dimmer switch. Rob OK'ed the bill and sent it to Tina. Rob noted that Mr. Strobel gave us a discount for the work due to his interest in the town's historic buildings.

Meetinghouse

Rob on behalf of the commission purchased approximately 150 ft of second-hand granite curbing from Bennett Construction in December for approximately \$2000. The curbing will be used for the parking lot. Bob will ask Bob Mosley if he is still interested installing the curbing this spring.

Rob said that a pane of glass is missing on the east side. We need someone to do the work. John suggested talking to Window Master company in Dublin, NH. He had a historic window restored several years ago and they did excellent work at a reasonable price.

Rob said we still need to install a new interior light fixture in the kitchen. A present time, there is only a light bulb. Also, as discussed at the December and November meetings, Rob said we still need to purchase a new larger refrigerator.

Rob needs to check with Chip to see if he reconnected the lightning rod cable.

New Business

Rob said Debbie Soucy in the town office building contacted him and told him that repairs need to be done on the exterior of the building. For example, the gutter on the SW corner of the front entry is rotten. Rob said he has contact info for Mid Maine Restoration, the company that painted and did work on the Meetinghouse Steeple and the cupula of the town office building. He will call the person and see if they are interested in the work.

Rob reminded us that repairs on the cobbler shop are needed. He thought it would be a good candidate for a grant. John suggested to Rob that he asks Mid Maine Restoration if they would be interested in the work too. Rob will ask them for an estimate.

Rob suggested that we start thinking about plans for the 275th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Hampstead which will occur in 2024. Joe P. suggested that the anniversary events could be held in the days or week(s) around the town's annual July 4th celebration. Joe P. thought the events could be similar to what other NH towns do during their Old Home Day celebrations. Rob suggested having a town wide meeting in early October to set up a steering committee to start planning for the anniversary.

John said is considering the submission an application for a NH Historical Highway Marker. Presently, the town has only one sign, the sign in front of the Meetinghouse. John said he would eventually like to have one sign in each of the main villages of town: West Hampstead, Central Hampstead, and East Hampstead. John said he may start with composing text for a sign in West Hampstead that would focus on the Poplar and Palm Leaf Hats factory and/or the Oct. 9, 1911 head-on collision of two locomotives on the Boston and Maine Railroad. Rob and Joe thought this was a good idea. John will work on the text in the coming months and have the commission review it. Rob also mentioned that other towns such as Windham have installed their own signs at sites.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Rob said since there was no January 2022 meeting, there are no minutes to approve.

Adjourned:

Rob made motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Joe P. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM EST.

Minutes were approved at the April 2022 meeting since there was no March 2022 meeting.