

HAMPSTEAD HISTORIC/HERITAGE COMMISSION

11 Main Street, Hampstead New Hampshire 03841-2033

Minutes June 12, 2018

A meeting of the Historic/Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at the Hampstead Historic Museum, 67 Main Street, Hampstead, NH.

Present: Rob Morris, Chairman, John Kelley, Chip Hastings, Carolyn Rockwell, Debbie Soucy, and Joe Guthrie, Ex-Officio, and Joe Passanise.

Chairman Morris opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Museum

C. Hastings and Dave Dupouy installed the copper caps on the front stairs of the Museum. D. Dupouy also fixed the sashes and weights in a couple of the windows that required repair. R. Morris let the group know that the air conditioning appears to be working fine.

J. Kelley advised the group that he was given the names of a few lighting companies that are historic in nature and he will begin research on options for the Museum.

Meetinghouse

R. Morris advised the group that the Window Women of New England are definitely interested in working with the HDHC to run a workshop this fall to help restore windows in the Old Meeting House. R. Morris stated that Reinhild Davis, a member of the Hampstead Historical Society, has indicated that she may be able to secure funding through her work to help sponsor the Window Women event.

R. Morris advised the group that he had been contacted by D. Soucy last week regarding mouse droppings in the Meetinghouse. R. Morris stated he would expect a few mice in the building due to the age and season. R. Morris set a few traps and will keep an eye out for any further critters.

R. Morris met with Dave Dupouy at the Meetinghouse to get some ideas with regard to the kitchen area in the building. Dave Dupouy had the feeling that the floor could be easily returned to large plank pine boards, in addition, the drop ceiling could be easily removed. Dave Dupouy told R. Morris that he knows of someone who can plaster walls if that is needed. R. Morris and Dave Dupouy searched the Meetinghouse for any signs of an original door to the kitchen area and could not locate one in the building; Dave Dupouy felt he could recreate a door for the kitchen that would be fitting to the period of the building.

R. Morris had the idea of adding a slop sink in the kitchen area adjacent to the existing bathroom, this would provide a water source. The plumbing for the first floor bath could be updated during this renovation as well. The second floor plumbing could be disconnected, as there is no need for bathrooms upstairs as the second floor cannot be used for any public purposes due to the lack of a second egress.

Dave Dupouy will be providing R. Morris with quotes for the work. R. Morris advised the group that the order of work in the Meetinghouse kitchen would likely be demolition, plumbing, ceiling, and floors. C. Hastings agreed that you typically work from the top of the room to the floor.

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R. Morris stated that the Hampstead Historical Society has an interest in a safe for the Museum. R. Morris noted that he and Dave Dupouy found a large safe in the Meetinghouse while they were searching for doors. R. Morris stated that the safe has been in the Meetinghouse for years, no one knows at this point what is in the safe, if anything. R. Morris suggested that maybe the safe could be moved to the Museum. A locksmith could possibly open the safe and make it operational for use at the Museum. D. Soucy suggested that Penny Williams could possibly highlight this in one of her articles, maybe someone in Town knows about the safe.

July 3 Bell ringing

R. Morris reminded the group that he will be ringing the bell at the Meetinghouse at midnight on July 3rd to ring in the 4th of July.

J. Kelley suggested that the HDHC reach out to the Civic Club and ask if they are interested in having the bell ring during the Memorial Day Observance. J. Kelley will follow up on this matter.

Civic Club Proposal

R. Morris advised the group that Howie Stedman, Civic Club, was looking for a response to their proposal for a bathhouse on the site of the Old Police Station. The group discussed the idea again and felt it more appropriate to move forward in a different direction.

The HDHC would like to bring forward a proposal for a parking lot area with lots of landscaping and some hardscaping to separate the parking from the ball field area. The HDHC suggested moving the parking back 6-7 feet from the side of the Meetinghouse to keep cars from pulling too close to the building, this will also allow for additional plantings in that area. The HDHC also suggested adding a stone wall to separate the parking from the ball field with additional plantings in front of the stone wall (near the Emerson Ave side).

J. Kelley stated he will reach out to UNH – Thompson School. It was suggested that a group of student's in the Landscape Architect program could assist with drawings, etc. for plantings and hardscape. R. Morris reminded the group that he would like to keep the stone wall and plantings as historically accurate as possible. C. Hastings agreed that a dry wall is what he was envisioning.

All members agreed that due to the nature of the project in size and cost, professionals would need to be consulted to develop a proposal that could be presented to the Town as a Warrant Article for 2019.

MOTION: J. Passanise made a motion to move in the direction of an open space plan to include a redesigned parking area, hardscaping, and landscaping, in keeping with the historic nature of the area.

SECOND: C. Rockwell

VOTE: 7-0

Next Meeting – July 4th

MOTION: J. Guthrie made a motion to cancel the July 4th Meeting.

SECOND: J. Passanise

VOTE: 7-0

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MOTION: J. Guthrie made a motion to approve the 5/2/2018 Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: R. Morris

VOTE: 7-0

Adjourn

MOTION: J. Passanise made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 P.M.

SECOND: R. Morris

VOTE: 7-0

Minutes prepared by Debbie Soucy, Secretary