

HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2012

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting in the City Council Chambers, at 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, May 3, 2012, at 4:30 PM.

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

Present at the meeting were Chair Phil Donovan, Members Frederick Richards, City Councilor Steve Shurtleff, and James McConaha. Commission Member Robert Johnson joined the meeting at 4:45 PM, constituting a quorum. Absent were members Marilyn Fraser, Bryant Towles, Elizabeth Hengen, and Carol Brooks. Also absent were Administrative Specialist Donna Muir and City Planner Gloria McPherson.

2. Select Secretary pro-tem to take meeting minutes:

Mr. McConaha was selected to take the minutes.

3. Minutes of the April 5, 2012 meeting:

The Commission deferred action on the minutes, due to lack of a quorum. When a quorum was achieved, a motion was made to accept the minutes by Mr. Shurtleff and seconded by Mr. Richards; motion passed.

4. New Business:

a. Concord's 250th Birthday Celebration – No Report.

b. Governor Isaac Hill Monument

Mr. McConaha reported that the text of the marker plaque had gone to Advantage Signs for layout work. He also reported that a quote had been received with a cost of \$1425 for a 23" x 35" sign and \$925 for a 14" x 25" sign. Cost of installation would be \$170. The signs would be of anodized aluminum, similar to those in Eagle Square. As the cost of \$925 was under the amount the Commission understands is available, a consensus supported this choice. Mr. McConaha will continue to work with Advantage Signs and with Donna Muir on purchasing.

c. Final Report of South Main Street 19th Century Manufacturing Facilities 2011 CLG Grant Project

Mr. Richards reported that the final surveys had not been received by the city yet, but assumed they were at DHR and are being reviewed for eligibility. Mr. Donovan reported that the Concord Monitor would be doing a feature story on the surveys shortly.

d. Discussion of 2012 CLG Grant Application

Mr. Donovan introduced a letter from the DHR in response to the Heritage Commission's letter of intent to undertake a survey of carriage houses and urban barns within the city, to be funded through a CLG grant. The letter from DHR raised concerns "that a reconnaissance survey of carriage barns may have limited value, without a more in-depth understanding of their context." The DHR suggested a more narrow focus on a specific neighborhood. The members discussed the issue and the limited time frame to reconfigure the survey. Mr. McConaha moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to decline the CLG grant this year, based on DHR concerns. The motion passed.

e. Discussion of Community Planning Grant Applications

Mr. Donovan and Mr. Richards outlined the availability of a planning grant to the city, through the N.H. Housing Finance Agency. The grant would provide funds to engage a consultant that would help develop and implement neighborhood heritage districts within the city. The planning department will apply for the grant, and the item will be on the City Council agenda for June 11. Commission members discussed the important value of this opportunity, as it would help meet objectives in the Master Plan, calling for such preservation tools as neighborhood heritage districts. The Commission will work to identify possible districts and will support the grant application.

f. Stickney Hill Road Neighborhood Heritage District

Mr. McConaha reported that neighbors on Stickney Hill have offered to host a meeting of Heritage Commission members to outline preservation opportunities for the neighborhood. A convenient date is being sought.

g. CCTV April Telethon – Heritage Sign Program - No Report

h. New Agenda Item – Design Review Guidelines Consultant

Mr. Richards reported that a Design Review Guidelines consultant had been hired by the city and that he would be the Heritage Commission's designee to work with the consultant.

i. Additional Item – N.H. Bindery Documentation

Mr. McConaha reported that John Gfroerer, of Accompany, and James Garvin have been engaged to photodocument the N.H. Bindery, prior to its demolition. They will be doing video and still photography and began their work this week. Their focus will be on the architectural and engineering details of the building, as well as the current bindery business. Their photography will be part of future exhibits telling the story of the bindery and many of the other

manufacturing industries in the area. This work is being underwritten by the new owner of the building, Stephen Duprey.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Shurtleff to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

James McConaha
Secretary, Pro-Tem