

HERITAGE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2012

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting in the City Council Chambers, City Hall Annex, 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, July 12, 2012, at 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Chair Phil Donovan, Members Dr. Bryant Tolles (who arrived at 4:50 pm), Robert V. Johnson II, Marilyn Fraser, James McConaha, Frederick Richards and City Councilor Steve Shurtleff. City Planner Gloria McPherson and Administrative Specialist Donna Muir were also present.

2. Minutes of the June 7, 2012 meeting:

The Commission considered the minutes of the June 7, 2012, Heritage Commission meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Fraser to accept the minutes as written, and seconded by Mr. Shurtleff. Motion carried unanimously.

3. New Business:

a. The South Main Street 19th Century Manufacturing Facilities CLG Grant Project

The Chair stated that the final piece of the grant was the public education component. The Commission decided on two dates to hold the meeting – Tuesday, September 11th or Thursday, September 13th. The Chair suggested that Ms. Muir contact the grant consultant, Lisa Mausolf, along with any absent members of the Commission, to determine the better of these two dates for the public education session.

The Commission briefly discussed where the event could take place, as well as how outreach to the owners of the property and the general public could occur. The Chair stated that once the date was confirmed, the remaining issues would be taken up by the Commission.

Vice Chair Richards talked about the building end walls from part of the Abbot Downing manufacturing complex that still remain within the current mattress store and hardware store on South Main Street. Mr. McConaha explained that this had been brought up previously and the

grant consultant was notified, although no mention of these existing end walls were included in the historic surveys prepared for the grant.

b. Isaac Hill Monument Update

The Chair stated that the installation of the sign would be completed by the City's General Services Division. Mr. McConaha reported that Advantage Signs said the sign would be ready by July 31st.

4. Regular Business

a. Demolition Review Committee Report

Vice Chair Richards stated that there had been two demolition review applications, for which the Demolition Review Committee signed off: the old Agway buildings at 6-9 Commercial Street, and 290 Village Street, Penacook.

b. Heritage Sign Program

The Chair reported that Ms. Brooks was not in attendance, so there would be no formal report on the Heritage Sign Program.

Ms. Muir provided the Commission members with photos of the Heritage Sign which was installed at 19 Jackson Street.

5. Informational Items

a. Community Planning Grant Application

Ms. McPherson reported that the City was not being funded for the Community Planning Grant at this time. She stated that she has a meeting set up with Ben Frost from the NH Housing Finance to discuss the grant application and how the City can make a stronger application for the next round of funding. She explained that most of the funded applications were centered on form-based code and regulatory review, with one to fund the creation of a Neighborhood Heritage District.

Ms. McPherson suggested that the Heritage Commission consider a Neighborhood Heritage District for Stickney Hill Road, for the next grant round. She explained that the City Council would want all the neighbors on board with the prospect of creating a Neighborhood Heritage District, but that there seemed to be ample time for the Commission to do outreach to the neighborhood. Mr. Shurtleff wondered if the Heritage Commission would consider a different neighborhood in which to create a Heritage District. The Chair said that while that would be a possibility, he doesn't want to lose site of the Stickney Hill neighborhood.

6. Historic Postcard Collection of David Stevenson

The Chair introduced Mr. David Stevenson, who shared a portion of his historic Concord postcard collection with the Commission. Mr. Stevenson explained that he has been collecting for about 30 years, and began after attending a show at the NH Hotel, where he found a postcard of the East Congregational Church, where he and his wife were married. He stated that most of his collection dates from the late 1800s through the early 1900s.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Tolles and seconded by Mr. McConaha to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Gloria McPherson
City Planner

Gm/djm