

HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2017

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting at City Hall, 41 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

Chairman Donovan called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and introduced Ms. Galligan.

Present at the meeting were Chair Phil Donovan, Vice-Chair Frederick Richards, members Robert Johnson, Bryant Tolles, Jr., Carol Durgy Brooks, and Richard Jaques. Planning Division Administrative Specialist Lisa Fellows-Weaver was also in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes of January 5, 2017

Mr. Jaques moved to approve the January 5, 2017 minutes, as amended, as follows:

Replace Northern Pass section with ... *Ms. Shank informed the Commission that the Deputy City Solicitor is seeking the input of the Heritage Commission members relative to the Northern pass project. Mr. Johnson informed Ms. Shank that the NH site evaluation committee previously had invited the HC to participate and the motion by Mr. Johnson at that time to accept and participate was rejected on a vote of 3 to 2.*

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. New Business

a. Ryan Linehan and Rob Fried – Kimball Jenkins reporting on activities in the historic district.

Rob Fried, Executive Director of Kimball Jenkins Estate, was present along with Ryan Linehan. Mr. Fried provided a history of the Kimball Jenkins Estate and the hopes to revitalize this area and make it a more prominent place, from the Pierce Manse to the Kimball Jenkins Estate. He stated that they have hired Kim Murdoch as their new director of philanthropy.

Mr. Fried explained that this past fall the Kimball Jenkins Estate hosted a forum to provide a presentation of the goals for North Main Street and to bring people together to see what they want for this area. Some in attendance felt that this area of the City has been ignored. It is a hope that there will be an interest to do something that will preserve and enhance the character of the historic district as well as an opportunity to show off the properties that have historic significance. Mr. Fried stated that they would like to do something that involves the outlying area not just the street. He suggested adding a kiosk to the ellipse area and would like to raise funds to create a nice kiosk for notifications of events, smaller plaques, or utilize some sort of identifiers for the houses in the area. He added that he has spoken to the neighbors who seem to be excited by a design that exposes people to historic information and shares the values of the district.

A discussion was held relative to the style of the kiosk, proposed materials and the location. Mr. Donovan commented that this area is the historic district and the Heritage Commission is tasked with making sure that the district maintains its character, and works with people living in the district to make sure that any changes are done properly. He added that he feels calling attention to the area is a good idea;

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however, it must be done properly and in a manner that protects the overall character of the neighborhood. Since it is a residential district, the residents should all be on board with the project. Concern was expressed relative to parking in the area as well as the potential of an increase in traffic within the district.

Ms. Brooks explained the Heritage Commission Sign Program managed by the Heritage Commission and the style options available. Mr. Fried was receptive to utilizing the sign program and added that he would like to get the residents of the district to come together and choose one sign option for continuity. Discussion ensued as to the placements of the signs for visibility, either directly attached to the houses or along the front walk.

Mr. Linehan stated that he would like to create a walking tour of the district as well as an audio tour that could be used as a cell phone app.

Mr. Donovan requested that they keep the Commission and the residents of the district informed and explained the public hearing process, which is a requirement through the Commission. Mr. Fried stated that he will return to the Commission with a design for the kiosk.

b. Election of Officers:

Nominations for Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Jaques nominated Mr. Richards. Mr. Johnson seconded the nomination.

Nominations for Chairman:

Mr. Richards nominated Mr. Donovan. Ms. Brooks seconded the nomination.

With no other nominations and no opposition of candidates; Ms. Brooks made a motion to close the ballots for officers. Mr. Richards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Gas Holder Grant - Consultant Update

Mr. Donovan provided a brief update of the Gas Holder grant. He stated that Public Archeology Laboratory of Rhode Island (PAL) has been notified that they were awarded the proposal and have accepted the job. He stated that the next step is to meet with PAL and Amy Dixon of the NH Division of Historical Resources as well as Ms. Shank and himself.

4. Regular Business

a. Demolition Review – Committee Report

Mr. Richards stated that there were no permits or activities of the Demolition Review Committee (DRC) over the past month.

The Commission briefly discussed the status of demolition of the Beede House in Penacook and the Zoning Board process for filing for variances.

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5. Informational Items

a. Demolition Delay Ordinance from City of Manchester

Mr. Donovan provided the Commission with an overview of a meeting he attended regarding the Demolition Delay Ordinance in the City of Manchester. He stated that he explained the City of Concord's process and believes that he provided information that will be useful.

There being no further business to come before the commission, on a motion made by Mr. Jaques and seconded by Ms. Brooks, Chairman Donovan adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Fellows-Weaver,
Administrative Specialist