

HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2022

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting at Council Chambers, 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, February 3, 2022.

Attendees: Chair Richard Jaques, Vice-Chair Jim Spain, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Members Dr. Bryant Tolles Jr., Carol Durgy Brooks, and Alternate Mike Dunn. Alternate Althea Barton arrived later in the meeting.

Staff: Lisa Fellows-Weaver, Administrative Specialist

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jaques at 4:34 p.m.

Vice-Chair Spain made a motion to seat Alternate Member Dunn to the Commission for this meeting. Councilor Kretovic seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Election of Officers - Demolition Review Committee – Vice Chair

Ms. Brooks made a motion to resear Mr. Jaques as the Vice-Chairman to the Demolition Review Committee through December 2022. Seconded by Councilor Kretovic. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Spain moved to approve the minutes of January 6, 2022, as amended, with minor edits that do not alter the content of the meeting. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

There was no new business to come before the Commission.

5. Demolition Review Committee – Jim Spain

Mr. Spain stated that there has not been any new activity over the past month and there are no updates.

6. Heritage Sign Program – Carol Brooks

Ms. Brooks stated that no new applications have been submitted and there have been no inquiries.

7. Planning Board Update

Ms. Shank stated that there have not been any projects before the Planning Board with historic resources.

Ms. Shank spoke to the progress with the Code rewrite. She stated that a report has been submitted to Council noting that the Phase 1 draft will be ready for public review soon; Phase 2 has also begun. She is anticipating hosting visioning charrettes at the end of March and hoping to give a presentation to Council at their March meeting.

Councilor Kretovic asked if there is a timeframe when work begins on the preservation portion of the Master Plan. Ms. Shank stated that there are grants available through the CLG that are specific to master plans and she will begin to look into the schedule for the next round of funding. She stated that she is hopeful that the Code will be adopted by the end of 2022. She added that working on the master plan could then begin for the next spring for 2024 funding. She noted that this will be a consultant led project.

Councilor Kretovic replied that this is good to know so Council can begin planning now for their priorities; she will note this at their upcoming meeting next week. She added that the next thing to

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address is to put the historic preservation efforts in the forefront of Council. She stated that this Commission needs to be more proactive and suggested that the Commission and the community begin to discuss what buildings are of importance, then create a list of the top 10 buildings that should be saved and to include that in the master plan process. Ms. Shank agreed that this is something that could be included in the RFP.

8. Council Update – Councilor Kretovic

Councilor Kretovic stated that the proposed Demolition Delay Ordinance is on the agenda for February to schedule a hearing for the March Council meeting. She noted that a report documenting the website funding is also on the Council’s consent agenda.

Ms. Weaver stated that Ms. Breton, the Public Information Officer (PIO) did look at the Mansion Minecraft website. Councilor Kretovic stated that the link could be added to the new repository website when that is completed.

Chairman Jaques noted that the website should credit Clark Barton for all of the work he contributed. Ms. Barton stated that she would make that revision and forward it to Councilor Kretovic.

9. Old Business

- **Gas Holder Building**

Councilor Kretovic stated that there was nothing new to report relative to the Gas Holder.

- **Abbott Village - Heather Shank**

It was noted that the Abbott house is for sale as a part of the condominium. Ms. Barton asked if there would be an opportunity to view the inside. Ms. Shank replied that the contractor offered to allow Commission members inside if they wanted to reach out to him. Ms. Brooks noted that since it is for sale there may be an open house.

Mr. Dunn passed around pictures showing the interior of the house that he obtained from the sales website. Members noted that the inside looked to be very well done.

- **Demolition Delay Ordinance – Mike Dunn**

Ms. Shank stated that that the proposed ordinance is on Council’s February agenda with a public hearing set for Council’s March meeting.

Ms. Brooks asked that the Commission be able to view the amendment before the public hearing. Councilor Kretovic asked if she thought more changes would need to be made because it would not go forward for public hearing if so. Ms. Brooks did not think more changes would be needed but wanted to see the final proposal before adoption. Ms. Shank noted that it would be available as a public link on the Council agenda prior to the hearing, but that she would also email the proposal out to members.

- **Historic Photo Repository**

Councilor Kretovic stated that the repository is about 50% complete.

- **Monuments & Granite Markers - Jim Spain**

Mr. Spain noted the monument located at the Abbott House that was shown in one of the pictures Mr. Dunn had printed. He added that he would add this to the monument list.

10. Any other business to come before the Commission

- a.* Correspondence - there was no new correspondence.

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- b.* Attendance - Next meeting is March 3, 2022.
- c.* Facebook Page
 - Ms. Barton stated that she noticed the City of Manchester's Heritage Facebook page. She reached out to them for more information. Their goal for the page is to promote historic preservation and encourage public engagement for the City of Manchester. It was suggested that members look at the Manchester page and see if it is something for Concord's PIO could do for the Concord Facebook page. In addition, she reviewed statistics from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and 97% of millennials do appreciate historic preservation, which validates the work of this Commission.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Spain motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 p.m. Mr. Tolles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Fellows-Weaver
Administrative Specialist