

HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2022

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting at Council Chambers, 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, May 5, 2022.

Attendees: Chair Richard Jaques, Vice-Chair Jim Spain, Members Dr. Bryant Tolles Jr., Alternate Mike Dunn and Alternate Althea Barton,

Absent: Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, and Carol Durgy Brooks

Staff: Heather Shank, City Planner
Lisa Fellows-Weaver, Administrative Specialist

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jaques at 4:30 p.m.

Vice-Chair Spain made a motion to seat Alternate Members Dunn and Barton to the Commission for this meeting. Dr. Tolles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Spain made a motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2022. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business

- ***Heritage Trust – Letter to Council***

This item was continued to the June meeting.

- ***Magnificent Ten***

A general discussion was held regarding what the “Magnificent 10” could be. Ms. Shank suggested members include looking for buildings that should be saved as well as considering buildings that could be recognized. Other topics to consider were as follows:

- Things to Save
- Things to Honor
- What’s valuable in your Ward
- Preservation encouragement/annual award
- Tours

This item was continued to the June meeting.

4. Demolition Review Committee – Jim Spain

Mr. Spain stated that there has been some new activity for the Demolition Review Committee (DRC). He reported that an application was submitted for the barn at 86 Mountain Road. Members individually visited the site and viewed the barn from the street. Members agreed that the barn is historically significant; however, unanimously agreed to support the demolition of the barn due to extensive disrepair. The demolition permit was signed off.

Ms. Barton asked what appeared to be beyond repair. Mr. Spain explained that with the personal and committee’s experience, it was determined that the structure was not worthy of restoration. It was the opinion of the committee that the structure was in great disrepair. Mr. Tolles noted that the structure was disintegrating into the ground and the roof shingles were very old with extensive rot. Mr. Dunn added that the sides and rear of the barn were in very poor condition and the dug foundation was failing as well. Mr. Dunn stated that he took pictures of the structure, which show significant decay. Mr. Spain added that the building has lost its integrity. It was noted that the barn is at least 100 years old.

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Chairman Jaques stated that the owners were planning to rehab the barn; however, he believes that the cost of the repairs was much more than what was expected.

Ms. Barton asked if the DRC has ever entered into a situation to say it is a significant barn and may be too costly but it is significant enough to get a chance to be dismantled and sold. Mr. Jaques replied that this has been done in the past and those barn materials were repurposed.

Ms. Shank explained the process of public meetings and site visits must be done in person and noticed at least 24 hours in advance.

- ***Email from Megan Ryder***

Ms. Shank referenced an email she received from Megan Ryder inquiring about the potential demolition of the building at 310 Pleasant Street and the demolition process. She explained the process of the DRC and noted that, at this time, there had not been an application submitted for demolition.

5. Heritage Sign Program – Carol Brooks

Ms. Brooks was not in attendance.

- ***City Manager Newsletter***

Ms. Shank stated that May is historic preservation month and the City's Public Information Officer will be adding something to the City Manager's Newsletter including a link to Heritage Commission's website and will be explaining the historic sign program.

6. Planning Board Update – Heather Shank

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

7. Council Update – Councilor Kretovic

Councilor Kretovic was not in attendance to provide any update.

8. Old Business

- **Gas Holder Building**

Ms. Barton stated that work continues on the Gas Holder building. She stated that they are continuing to work with the steel beams and this work will be ongoing for the next few weeks. She noted that there may be a model of the Gas Holder building at Market Days.

- **Website**

Ms. Weaver stated that Councilor Kretovic had emailed indicating that the Historic Photo Repository website would go live in May for historic preservation month.

- **Monuments & Granite Markers**

Mr. Spain stated that he and Mr. Dunn would be resuming visits very soon.

9. Any other business to come before the Commission

a. Correspondence - there was no new correspondence.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Spain made a motion to adjourn at 5:27 p.m. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Fellows-Weaver Administrative Specialist