

HERITAGE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

August 3rd, 2023 - DRAFT

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting at Council Chambers, 37 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, August 3rd, 2023.

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

Staff: Heather Shank, City Planner
Alicen Twardosky, Administrative Specialist II

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jaques at 4:34 p.m. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Spain made a motion to approve the minutes from July 6th, 2023, Dr. Tolles seconded, with edits requested by Chairman Jaques including item 8D, removing the word “they.” All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Brooks abstained from voting.

3. New Business

Nothing new to report.

4. Demolition Review Committee – Jim Spain

Nothing new for demolitions. Mr. Spain informed the Commission of a meeting that was held at St. Paul’s School where Mr. Dunn documented the inside of the building that has since been demolished.

5. Heritage Sign Program – Carol Brooks

Ms. Brooks had an inquiry forwarded to her by City Hall that she addressed. The person received the necessary information needed but Ms. Brooks hasn’t heard back.

The other two projects are ongoing. Ms. Brooks is watching the progress. Researchers have voiced excitement about their findings.

6. Planning Board Update – Heather Shank

There are no new applications that pertain to the Commission.

7. Council Update – Councilor Kretovic

Councilor Kretovic asked the Commission how they would like to address the Council referral regarding an update to the language in the budget pertaining to the history of Concord. She noted that the language was taken from the State and questioned whether the Heritage Commission should be revising it. She suggested putting an item on the Council consent agenda stating that the language is not the City’s to revise.

The Commission concurs with Councilor Kretovic’s suggestion. Ms. Shank will compose the letter on behalf of Chairman Jaques.

8. Old Business

a. Magnificent Ten

i. Program Name: Honoring Architectural – Historic Buildings

The name is to be determined. It will be kept on the agenda for next month.

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ii. Review of Special Meeting Minutes from June 27th, 2023

Chairman Jaques submitted minutes to the Commission members from the meeting to discuss the name of what is now called “Ten to Save.” Ms. Brooks requested edits that Chairman Jaques agreed to.

Ms. Brooks does not feel she needs to look at the sign program application as she is aware of what is says. She does think it could have helpful language. Chairman Jaques wasn’t sure it applied to what they were trying to do. Ms. Brooks assured him as far as what kinds of information might be used or kinds of criteria, not just historical. She stated the whole first page of the application covers this explanation.

Ms. Brooks made a motion to accept the minutes with the aforementioned edits. Mr. Spain seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Barton handed out a resource regarding preservation and uncovering the stories of history. The Committee will look at it and discuss at the next meeting.

The group schedule the next special meeting for August 29th @ 4:30 p.m.

b. Gas Holder Building

Nothing new to report on the building. Ms. Barton announced that a new comic book has been released about the Gas Holder Building and can be found on the website. The National Park Service Heritage Documentation program loved the book and is sharing.

c. Website – Mike Dunn and Councilor Kretovic

Mr. Dunn has updated a couple pictures.

Ms. Barton gave Councilor Kretovic a few things to also add.

d. Monuments & Granite Markers – Jim Spain

Nothing new to report.

e. Norris Mansion

Mr. Spain suggested an Ad-Hoc committee be created for researching how and where to move this building. Mr. Spain feels the City should buy or acquire the Friendly’s property and the building be relocated there. It is Councilor Kretovic’s understanding that the building would be donated to whomever agreed to move it. There was discussion on identifying who the current owner of the Friendly’s Restaurant property on Main Street is.

Mr. Dunn asked if a timeline for this property needing to be moved could be established. Chairman Jaques spoke with Steve Duprey about his efforts previously.

Mr. Spain will call Mr. Duprey to see if he’d be willing to work with the Commission. Once the current owners are identified, someone will reach out and see if they’d be willing to sell.

Ms. Brooks asked if this would qualify as a “Seven to Save” project, possibly as a community fundraiser.

9. Any other business to come before the Commission

a. Correspondence:

Ms. Shank informed the Commission that Mark Coen brought everyone copies of the book “Cross Currents of Change” at the last Conservation Commission meeting, and that the office now has multiple copies if anyone would like to borrow them.

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b. Attendance

All present plan to be in attendance next month.

10. Adjournment

With no other business to address, Ms. Brooks motioned, seconded by Dr. Tolles, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously at 5:15 p.m.

The next Special Meeting will be held August 29th @ 4:30 p.m.

Next monthly meeting will be held on September 7th at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alicen Twardosky
Administrative Specialist II