

HERITAGE COMMISSION
AMENDED MINUTES
November 1, 2007

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting in the City Council Chambers at 37 Green Street, Concord NH on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 4:30 PM.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 PM by Chairperson Donovan.

Present at the meeting were Chairperson Donovan, Vice-Chairperson Steve Shurtleff, Dr. Douglas Black, Robert Johnson, Carol Durgy Brooks, Frederick Richards, William McGonagle, Elizabeth Durfee Hengen and James McConaha. City Planner Douglas Woodward and Administrative Specialist Denise Taschereau were also present.

Absent from the meeting was Marilyn Anne Fraser.

2. Minutes of October 4, 2007:

The commission considered the minutes of October 4, 2007. Mr. Shurtleff made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Chairperson Donovan asked if there was any discussion regarding the minutes.

Ms. Brooks stated that the minutes needed to be amended to state that she will be abstaining from all discussion and voting regarding Concord Schools (page 3).

Mr. Johnson stated that the word “legislature” was spelled incorrectly (page 3).

Ms. Taschereau stated that the minutes were labeled the “Draft Minutes from October 1, 2007”. The meeting was actually held on October 4, 2007.

With no further discussion, the motion to accept the minutes with the above mentioned corrections passed unanimously.

3. New Business:

3a. Discussion with the Superintendent of Schools Regarding Preservation and Re-use of Concord Schools:

Chairperson Donovan introduced Concord Superintendent of Schools Chris Rath and Facilities Manager Martin Honigberg.

Ms. Rath opened the presentation by stating that no final decision had been made regarding the school buildings except for the purchase of land. The Concord School District welcomes ideas and input from the community. She showed the commission a PowerPoint presentation that summarized the work that has been done so far. The presentation explained the why, what and when. The current plan would take the current 8 elementary schools and consolidate them into 4 campuses.

Several pieces of property adjacent to the Kimball School have been purchased by the district for future expansion.

Three task forces will be formed to look at specific aspects of the plan. These task forces will be: educational specifications, cost, and reuse of property.

Mr. Honigberg stated that doing nothing will also be expensive. He hopes to have the project started in about 18 months and it will probably up to 10 years to complete.

Mr. Johnson asked which campus would be done first.

Ms. Rath stated that nothing had been decided. The Kimball Campus would probably be done first; however, the Broken Ground Campus would be the easiest.

Ms. Hengen asked if the buildings would be changed to non school use.

Ms. Rath responded that it would be possible.

Perhaps the Walker School could be turned into the Police Department, since it is located across the street from the Fire Department.

Ms. Rath stated that there are no plans to demolition any of the school buildings at this time.

Dr. Black stated that it was a great presentation and suggested that the City Council hold a special meeting to see the presentation.

Chairperson Donovan stated that the Heritage Commission will be available to participate in the task force on the reuse of the buildings.

4. Old Business:

4a. Section 106 consultation – Verizon Wireless cell tower:

No discussion.

4b. Heritage Sign Program:

No discussion.

4c. Master Plan – Subcommittee Report:

Chairperson Donovan stated that the Master Plan would be discussed next month.

4d. Commission Procedural Rules Amendment:

No discussion.

4e. Electronic Message Center Signs:

No discussion.

4f. Demolition Review – Committee Report:

Discussed earlier in the meeting. No additional report given.

4g. Architectural Surveys on the Website:

No report given.

5. Dates, conferences, correspondence:

None.

6. Other Business:

Mr. Shurtleff stated that he is still waiting for a letter from Goodwill Industries giving permission to remove the historical marker.

Mr. Woodward stated that he has the City's Grant Specialist working on securing the grant money. An appropriation resolution will have to go to City Council

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Black at 6:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shurtleff. The motion passed unanimously.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Denise Taschereau
Administrative Specialist II
Community Development Department

