

## Exeter Heritage Commission

November 9, 2016

### Draft Minutes

Members present: John Merkle, Chairman, Julie Gilman, Mary Dupre

Chairman Merkle called meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Wheelwright Room in the Exeter Town Office Building.

Business: John stated that the minutes for June will have to be approved at next month's meeting because there are only three members present for this meeting.

Next on the agenda is the review of the HDC Guidelines. Julie stated that she did not have them in front of her so she just high-lighted what they did. She stated that DHR is very pleased with them. There is good graphics and lots of photos. Julie stated that it is very educational, which is very important for people coming in to fill out an application. It is posted on the website with each chapter individually. Julie then stated that her only criticism of it is that the cover has the Loaf and Laddle with the dam still there. She then stated that it is historical. John then stated that he will send out a memo to everyone to go and look at this on the website.

Next is the Winter Street Cemetery LCIP Application update. Julie stated that there is no news yet and they came up for their site visit in September. She walked around with an architect historian and Julie then stated that she had never met him. She stated that they walked around and looked at the various things that they had pointed out on the application. They loved the cemetery and thought it was nicely done for its age. Julie stated that this architect started looking around and stated that the trees are a real problem. Julie told him they had gotten a quote of \$30,000 to take care of the trees. He then stated that he knew someone who could do it for less and he really likes working in cemeteries. Julie stated that one man came down to look at it for an estimate and he was looking around saying that he could not get his equipment in. He stated that they might be able to get a crane in, but it would not be for all the trees. Julie is waiting to receive his quote for the tree work. Julie stated that this gentleman from LCIP encouraged her to call this company because one of the people there likes to work in cemeteries, but that is not who came out to look at it. Julie will call and ask them to send out the one who likes working in cemeteries to come out and look, but it is a difficult site. Julie then stated that they should be announcing the awards any day now. John stated that the commission can come back to demolition review because they do not have anything that is on there.

Julie wanted to talk about the next stage for the possible CLD Grant (Certified Local Government). Julie stated that they opened up the grant round early. Julie passed out paperwork on this. She stated they send out the letter of intent deadline and she has a sample letter of intent to do an area around Park street because that is one of the oldest settled areas. Julie stated they are selecting the projects in February which matches up with our budget cycle. Julie stated that it is such a compact area, that they need to pick and choose their way around. Julie was thinking Cass Street at some point. John and Mary both agreed. John stated there are a number of homes on Cass Street. Julie is not sure if they have to start on Main Street or not, but they can start part way down. Mary then asked if only Park Street and Julie stated that she would like to do Park Street Common. John stated that there was Charlie Tucker's house there and it use to be McDonalds across the street and it is a condo now. It is a very nice house. Julie stated there are a couple of buildings that she would like to do, but she is not that familiar with the

area off of Park Street. Mary then stated that they could go and walk around and John stated that it would not be a bad idea because it was a widely used road. There is an old school there and a jail. Charlie's house use to be a tavern. Julie stated there were a lot of taverns around. John stated that the house on the corner of Cass Street is a nice old house. It is from the 1700s. Julie then stated that a drive by or a walk would be a good idea. John stated that if you drive through, the neighborhood is a hundred years old, but some later conditions done to it. Julie then stated that the story of the jail would be nice to have written down. John stated that when they talk about the Heritage Districts, this area would be a good candidate for that. Julie then stated that they should take about the Heritage District idea at the next meeting.

John asked what the timeline is for this. Julie stated the letter has to be in on the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month. Mary asked what has to be in the letter and Julie stated what the commission is intending to apply for a grant to do a job. It does not have to be detailed. John asked Julie if the commission would benefit from going to the Historical Society and picking a few of them out with the dates and Julie said it would be a good idea. Julie asked John if they want to make a visit to the Historical Society and do a drive by too. John thinks this is a good idea. John stated that the commission could not take a vote on this tonight and Julie agreed. John then stated that it is the commission's intent to pursue this. Julie stated that for this year, the HDC Guidelines was granted \$23,000 because people kept giving back their money because they could not do the projects. John again stated that he will send out e-mails to see who would be interested in taking a tour. Julie stated they should do it on a Tuesday because the Historical Society is open.

John stated that he e-mailed Maura and when she replied she indicated that she had been in touch with her friend over at SST and that they would be very anxious to help the commission in putting together a video of Exeter. The students engage that part of the class in January. John then stated that they have some time to think about it and write something. Julie stated that the Chamber has done some kind of walking tour, but she does not know what is on it. She will look into this and find out. Julie stated that if the students start filming in January, then the commission ought to have an idea of what places they want to go and what kind of words to say about them. This can be talked about in the December meeting. John and Mary agreed. Julie stated that the next meeting would be good for her on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Tuesday will work better for her instead of Wednesdays.

With no further business, John made a motion to adjourn. Mary seconded. All were in favor and meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick  
Recording Secretary