

Exeter Heritage Commission

July 18, 2017

Draft Minutes

Members present: Julie Gilman, Kelly Bergeron, Maura Fay

There were not enough members for a quorum, but a discussion was held anyway.

The discussion started at 7:00 pm in the Wheelwright Room of the Exeter Town Building. Also present was Paul Vlasich, Town Engineer and Pete and Nicole from VHB. Pete has been with the project since the dam removal study. He then took over the permitting for the project along with other divisions of VHB for the design of the removal.

Paul then stated there are other items as to why they are here tonight and one is the Cultural Resource permit, Section 106, memorandum of agreement. He then stated that they have lots of things to do. Last year, they did not have enough money to do everything. With the new budget, there is some additional monies. He went over the items they need to close out for the dam removal and one is the 106. Paul stated that one of the biggest items they still have to do is the flood plane mapping because they are adjusting some of the flood plane levels in the river with the dam being removed. DHV will help with this as well. They have to monitor the river bottom and a few stations on a survey and all kinds of calculations have to be done this year. Paul stated that what they do not have on their plate is restructuring anything in the river right now because they have not been notified of such.

Paul talked about the budget. They have \$120,000 this year to accomplish four items, which are the 106 stipulations, letter of mapping for the flood planes, river monitoring and the Pickpocket Dam survey. He then stated that it was quite an exercise figuring out how they could do all of those things with \$120,000. They have assumptions of what things are going to cost. They have a contract with VHB that they did not sign until they had a way in concept that everything worked. The amount that is currently allotted for Section 106 is \$35,500 and \$27,300 of that is DHV with \$8,200 for buying things and installing things.

Paul passed out paperwork for the 106 stipulations to all present. They went to page 2 with six items. Some are done already. Item one is done. Item two was to make sure the DHR reviewed, which they have done. Item three is not done and this is an exercise to make sure the information and saved and given to the appropriate places – the Exeter Library and the Historical Society. Item four was to take photographs and that has been done. Item five is an outdoor metal sign, which is not done. Item six is a display inside the library and also a viewing station that will also be inside the library. Paul now turns the discussion to VHB and talk about the stipulation of Item five, the outdoor tech sign. Pete from VHB stated that before they talk about stipulation five, stipulation three is a pretty straight forward task. It is in progress and they expect probably by early September to have that completed.

Nicole from VHB brought samples of signage for the dam for members to look at. She thought this would be helpful for the commission in deciding what they want for the coloring for the background. Pete stated that there is a vendor out of Ohio that does this work. This is their business and they do it all over the country. They have a gallery that the commission could look to. Pete stated that it would be easier for the commission to borrow one of their styles to look at. Paul asked Pete how the ordering from this company works. Pete state that you would pick the style of the sign, you pick the colors and also the text. It would probably take a few months for this. Nicole stated that it would be very helpful

to them if the Heritage Commission could send them one set of comments. Julie will distribute the information to the other members and they will discuss it at the meeting next month.

Nicole discussed that she had researched the information through the Historical Society of what the commission suggested. It is six to eight photograph panels, smaller ones so they could be moved in the library and have them captioned on a larger panel on the bottom. Nicole was thinking that maybe there is a way to have the captions on the photos themselves and this would separate the explanation from the photographs and it leaves a little leeway for the larger panel to have some historical or educational information. She took a photo from the Historical Society to show the commission what it would look like with a caption on an 11x17 size for everyone to see. Nicole also had brought some different panels that they had done for various clients to get an idea of what the commission is looking for.

Pete asked the members if at the next meeting, there would be a list of ideas. Just some kind of feedback so they can get started on the project. Pete then stated that Barbara was helpful during the Remembrance Committee work and he is wondering if the commission would like to loop Barbara into this. Julie agreed this would be good and will bring her into the Heritage Commission in that aspect because she knows her resources.

Julie stated that the decision was made to put the viewing station inside the library. Julie then stated that the cost of all of this would not exceed \$20,000. Paul stated that that is correct. Pete stated that they can get expensive. He stated that if the commission changes something it is a whole other negotiation and will prolong the process. Pete has worked with Chris Devois who works full time as a visualization expert. Pete stated that if the commission wanted to go with edged glass, it is an easy solution and can be done rather rapidly. The photographs they have, could be etched. The other concept they came up with is developing a wire frame, more like a drawing of the dam. Paul stated that he had gone out and taken several photos. Pete suggested that they have Chris come out and look at the library. Pete is excited about this and thinks it is a neat idea and he thinks they are good at doing this type of thing. Paul then stated that they need to understand where this is going to go and how do they move forward. Julie stated that cost is always an issue. Julie will give all of the information to the committee members and have copies made so they will have them for the next meeting.

The discussion ended at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick
Recording Secretary