

Heritage Commission

May 15, 2018

Draft Minutes

Members Present: John Merkle, Chairman, Julie Gilman, Jay Meyers, Maura Fay

Call Meeting To Order: John Merkle, Chairman, called meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Wheelwright Room of the Exeter Town Office Building.

Business: John asked Julie about an update on the Great Dam Section 106 process. Julie stated that the glass is being manufactured now and the signage. It has not all been assembled yet. The commission has already paid for this, so it is all going to be done. Julie stated that she has not checked with the town engineer because he has been away. John asked if the DHR is ok with everything and Julie said they were. She then stated that the DHR is actually excited about it, especially the glass panel. John then asked if it was going to go up on the window and Julie said it would be by the window closet to the river. Maura asked if there was a date yet and Julie said she has not checked into that yet, but it should be anytime now because it is paid for.

Next is the Winter Street Cemetery project update. John asked if there was anything going on with this. Julie stated that the payments are going forward. She does not think they have given Francis the last payment yet. He has one or two stones at his facility that he is filling in and will bring them back. Julie then stated that the next step would be to get a volunteer day to do some work on their own. Get the chemicals and do some cleaning. The cleaning takes about a year to show effect. John stated that it looks great. Julie stated that the ovalist was one that they did not expect to be done, but because they had the extra \$2500 for archaeological work, the L Chip approved doing more stone work. Julie then stated that they got quotes and it was approved for removal of the trees. The Selectmen approved a contract with a tree removal company for \$18,000 to remove twenty-two trees. They will be taking out almost all of the trees, especially the dead ones. This will be happening soon.

Update on Cass/Park Streets Historical Resources Survey CLD Grant Request. Julie stated that they went on the walk and it was fun. She stated they showed them the extremes of why the area was so big. They wanted to include things in the extents. Julie then stated that they came back and said they should probably split it up into two and one was the Cass Street area, which the commission knew. Julie stated that they went all the way up Main Street. They wanted to have the Tavern on Park Street in there. They saw the jail on the other end and the house on Epping Road. They went further back off of Epping Road. With this, the commission might get more money and they can change the request to \$20,000. They do not know yet how much they are getting from the National Park Service. Julie stated that she looked at the budget as approved and if she understands it correctly, each state that has CLG (Certified Local Government), would get \$450,000 each. John then asked Julie if they were only going to fund one of these districts. Julie stated that was correct. John stated that these were new people from DHR and they had not been through town. They were very interested in what the commission had to show them. There was a lot of conversation. Julie then stated that the question for the commission is which one is the priority. Julie stated that it is a toss up for her. The large area is something that people do not know about. John asked Julie if they needed to do anything with this now. Julie stated that she did not think

so. Once the commission hears from them, they will need to get together to decide. Julie stated that she is leaning towards the larger area and John agrees with her. John then asked the commission if they had more questions. Maura asked if they had a consultant lined up whom they worked with before. Julie stated that Lynn Monroe's company has done a lot of Exeter.

Approval of the minutes for February 20, 2018. Maura took the minutes for that meeting. Julie stated that at this point, those minutes are considered final and do not need to worry about them.

Last is the Demolition Review Update. Julie stated that she walked by it today. She stated that it is a nice example of a house that has expanded due to perhaps family necessities, or new ownership. The base house has actually been hidden. They are building a new one around five feet away from it. Jay asked what the address is on this and Julie stated it is 9 Clifford Street. She then stated that the commission needs to do an official walk through. John asked for a date to do this tonight. All agreed on Monday, 5/21/18 at 9 am. John stated that they only need three to do this and then it does not have to be posted. John stated that from reading the information they have, the foundation is staying and they will be building on top of it.

Other Business: John asked if there was any other business. Julie stated that the commission had talked about doing a phone app for a walking tour. She will be sitting with the Exeter TV Director, Bob Luckey to see if any of the staff has the expertise to do this. There is also the potential for her daughter to do it as a graduate project at school. They will be taking a look at Newburyport which uses a similar thing and it just uses google maps and pins to identify the buildings. They have it pop up with a little picture and some information. John stated that some has seen is, you just walk and when you get to the building, it pops up. This is what Julie is looking for. When Julie knows if they have the personnel, they can start working on what they would like.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick
Recording Secretary