

Heritage Commission

December 18, 2018

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Julie Gilman, Pam Gjettum, John Merkle, Chairman, Jay Myers, 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: Approval of October 16, 2018 meeting minutes. After the commission reviewed the minutes, Julie made a motion to approve with the amendments. Pam seconded. All were in favor and the October minutes approved.

Next is the update and next steps for Park/Cass Streets surveys. Julie passed out copies of the map for these surveys. John stated that he had a meeting about this and they wanted to establish a strategy and timeline. Lynne and her team are planning on starting or maybe have already gotten into the neighborhoods and taking photos. They will then have something to bring to the commission to talk about in January. The grant itself won't be done until the following fall. Julie stated they have two years to do the grant now instead of one. John stated the meeting only lasted about fifteen minutes because Lynne has worked with these people for a long time. Julie stated she created the form she is using to fill in. Julie said there was a conference call last Friday with Lynne, Nadine, Amy and herself. Dave was not in on it. It was to look at the boundaries that Lynne was proposing. If you look in the narrative, the thought that was best for the neighborhood was to concentrate on the post railroad aspect of the growth pattern. The main focus of discussion was about the Forest Oak Street area and Lynne is proposing not to include that as part of the area. She thinks it covers too much and it is a distinct area that can be done separately. The way it was left is that they will go with the outline that Julie had passed out to the commission. Lynne was very strong about extending it down Main Street as far as she could. Julie stated that she has already started the work.

Julie then stated that the commission has to make a vote to move whatever budget is left from the Heritage Commission into the Heritage Fund. Julie made a motion to move the 2018 line item budget for the Heritage Commission remainders as of December 31st to the Heritage Fund. The amount will be approximately \$2600. Maura seconded. All were in favor and motion approved.

John asked if any of the commission members have heard of the Granite Bridge Project. Pam stated that she has heard of it. Pam then stated that the Historical Society got the same request as John got. They pulled out all their files and shipped it all off to them. Julie did not get the request. Pam stated that Granite Bridge is a liquid natural gas and they want to have a pipe line going along Rte. 101. She also stated that they wanted to know by December 15th, if there was anything historical or anything we would get excited about if they brought a gas line through it. John stated that he called DHR and talked to Nadine and she said do not do anything until you have information to see. John told them that they look forward to working with them when they have the information and send it to us. John stated that he gets e-mails every time someone comes in for a building permit. He stated that Barbara and Doug

are really good about going over them. The first one is Hill Bridge which is a concrete bridge. Pam stated it is where they jump off into the river. It is for repairs and DHR wants the commission to wait until they get something on it. Pam stated she walks down by the bridge a lot and there are cracks down underneath. John was thinking about call them (PEA) to ask what their plans are.

Next, John asked about the letter they talked about last month. Julie stated that it is on hold because they will be going a different path.

John asked if they were any further along on the Rose Farm. Julie stated that she expected the gentleman to come to the meeting tonight. She stated that they are not any further with this. The process has been so diluted because of the timing and their response to the commission. She does not know where they are in the legal schedule of events. Pam stated that she read in the paper that they are reopening public hearings. Julie stated it had something to do with the Planning Board, but she cannot remember why. Maura stated that there were a couple of items. There was the third party review. There was a letter from the gentleman who is a private contractor who does storm water designing. He has done some consulting with their neighborhood group. Jay asked where it was from the commission's perspective. They took a walk on the grounds and then were going to follow up about the garage building. Julie stated that what was left for the commission was to negotiate with the owner because they found something that they would like to remain or be preserved. The next step is to talk to them and talk about having a different solution we think you can do. This is where we are now. Julie stated that their contact keeps texting her and said he will be coming to the meeting, but he did not come and she has not heard from him since. She will reach out to him again. The commission will get together again this week to discuss more on the demolition.

John stated that Dave Sharpel had him come in because the Town is doing the sidewalk project and there was a section down on Winter Street and Epping Road that they are expanding. DOT wanted the Heritage Commission to comment on it and sign off on it as well.

Other Business: There was no other business and Julie made a motion to adjourn. Pam seconded. All were in favor and meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick
Recording Secretary