



Milford Heritage Commission
Town Hall
1 Union Square
Milford NH 03055

Minutes June 2019

Meeting Date:

June 12, 2019

Attending:

David Palance, Chairman

Herb Adams, Member

Polly Cote, Member

Erna Johnson, Member

Chuck Worcester, Former Chairman

Jan Worcester, Citizen

Chris Thompson, Alternate

Bill Parker, Alternate

Chris Labonte, Selectman's Rep.

Jerry Guthrie, Memorial Commission

Alex Berry, Photographer

Meeting held in the library basement Lull Room

Review of Minutes

Call to vote into record

May Minutes provided for review, voted into record unanimously.

New Business

- Review of plans for self-storage facilities on 19 Perry Rd. There was discussion of the heritage of the area including the former residence and air-strip of Bernice Perry, Innovator in Woman's Flight, Photographer and philanthropist. The property is also near a once well-known indoor ice-skating rink. There was discussion of the adjacent Tucker Brook and the potential for flooding. No residences will be removed, new buildings to be single story and the owner lives on the property. The consensus was that the plans show no heritage impact but the commission was interested in any town significant artifacts that may be raised during any breaking of the soil.
- Review of 118 Amherst St. plans for a subdivision. The discussion included the burying of utilities and the salvaging of the stone walls that are prevalent on the site. The commission expressed interest in the local reuse of the granite stone from any walls removed.
- Review of 211 Mont Vernon St plans for a minor subdivision. There was much discussion on the easement shown which appears to be an old access route to the once popular Robert's Quarry. This is not the only access as the Quarry Condos share the adjacent property. The alterations show low impact to town Heritage and it may be best to clean-up the easement shown as this is largely a no longer purposeful.



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- Review of the Vietnam Memorial Park concepts as presented by Jerry Guthrie. Several concepts are being reviewed and developed. The Keyes Field entranceway site was rejected but the best idea to date is to expand behind the WWII monument wall on Elm St near the Great Brook Dam and Falls. This site is where an old blacksmith shop was located on the West bank of Railroad Pond. The site now has a natural hillside with a great view of the pond/island and the backside of the Oval to the south. This site is an easy walk to the Oval, the Community House, The Carey House Museum, The Rotary Park, Congregational Church and Bales School as they all share the same corner on the west side of the Oval.

The proposed memorial will be a split wall with passage for walkers through the gap. There is discussion to incorporate a Freedom Memorial and 911 ground zero remnants. The Town Website does not have any of these newer concepts posted as of yet. Parking, as with the Oval will be limited. There is some periodic parking close-by that would compete with the Museum and the owner, The Congregational Church. Several historical features will remain; an old millwheel/well cover, part of a foundation and the old mill dam and falls. Overall the concepts were well received.

Old Business

- There was an update on the Keyes Field stage and bandstand. The old stone from the Tonella Quarry Stonecutting shed are being reassembled down near the Souhegan River on the east side of the open space. Lincoln Geiger shared plans for the project by e-mail.
- Heritage Chapter in the Town Master Plan, Member, Bill Parker presented a draft of the introduction to the Heritage chapter of the proposed Town Master Plan. He handed copies around for further study by the committee. We will discuss this in further detail next meeting. Dave handed the inventory list to Bill for his assistance to resolve some street numbering conflicts and help to delete buildings that have since been removed or burned down. The quarry research is coming along as presented by Erna and Chris. They are uncovering a great deal of information that has not appeared in any previous published record. Erna visited the workers at Wirewinders last week; their business is located in an old granite building on Mt. Vernon St; they said there is a smaller granite building behind them that they think was the payment shed where quarry workers went to get the money they earned, they also said there is a path up the hill behind them that leads to a couple of little quarries. Chris is working on Bishops' Quarry and the possible Whitten Rd. site. This may have been the very original pit now known as the Brox Land.



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Date of Next Meeting

July 10, 2019

Call to Adjourn

8:10pm

Chairman

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Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month 7:00PM
Wadleigh Memorial Library
Lull Room