



Milford Heritage Commission
Town Hall
1 Union Square
Milford NH 03055

Minutes June 2018

Meeting Date:

June 13, 2018

Attending:

David Palance, Chairman cemeterymapping@comcast.net

Mark Bender, Town Administrator

Amy Concanon, Granite Town Media

Erna Johnson, Member

Bill Parker, Alternate

Chris Thompson, Alternate

Chuck Worcester, Past Chairman

Jan Worcester, Citizen

Review of Minutes

No minutes submitted from the last meeting

Appointment of Alternates

Two outstanding citizens were sworn into the commission membership by the Board of Selectmen. We are honored to welcome Chris Thompson and Bill Parker as alternates to the Heritage Commission. They will be called to vote when regular members are not present. At this meeting both men were called as Polly Cote and Herb Adams were not able to attend.

Old Business

Tonella Stone Shed The property owners continue to solicit the Planning Board with changes to the building project that will result in the demolition of the historically important Stone Cutting Shed. Several ideas were discussed as how the materials of the stone building can be repurposed for the cause of preserving the story of the stone cutters and the Town's granite heritage. Mark presented a concept of reconstructing the structure in-part for a roofed band-stand at the park on the Fletcher site. Several stone riggers passed on quoting the move and reconstruction of the building. Cost estimates to-date cannot be validated. The group maintains their interest in preserving the structure intact and will entertain concepts for relocation.

Planning Meeting Sit-in Plans submitted to the Planning Board are often modified but not resubmitted for comment from this commission. We understand our role as advisors, but sometimes the changes to the initial plans can have drastic impact. The group discussed the desire to be involved in plans as they evolve. We will make a point of sending a representative to the public Planning Board meetings to stay involved as scope and scale changes occur. Erna expressed her interest in the meeting of Tuesday evening, 26June.

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



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New Business

Town Master Plan There was discussion on how the Heritage Commission can become more relevant. Dave presented the idea of taking on the Heritage Section of the Town Plan to describe what we can do for the service of the town's heritage. Presently the Heritage section of the Master Plan is under the Conservation Commission. We propose to make clear what types of activities that we want to be a part of and even give our opinions on several common topics as listed below.

- The Heritage Commission is interested in a historical review of old structures prior to demolition to offer relevance and alternatives to the owners prior to removal of what may be important historical landmarks. This intent carries over to such minor issues of removing the miles of stone walls that were once more common than today.
- The Commission is interested in providing historical reviews of properties prior to modifications that would cover or remove important architectural features that speak of the town's heritage.
- The Commission is interested in advising residents on the tasteful and lawful factors that go into renovation projects. We can be an assistance to advise owners of older homes on mitigation of lead and asbestos issues.
- The Commission is interested in reviewing properties that have been preserved under Town, State and Federal registries. An example would be to review deeds for heritage restrictions and monitor the compliance.
- The Commission is interested in reviewing new roadway plans for compliance to scenic and archeologically important factors. Examples would include protecting Native American encampments and burial grounds.
- The Commission is interested in contributing to inventories and applications for State and Federal Historical registration. This and other activities will be in partnership with the Milford Historical Society.
- The Commission is interested in advising property owners on Community Revitalization Tax Relief under the guidance of RSA 79-E. We are interested in assisting in the application of grants to preserve barns and relevant properties.

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The Commission believes that by stating our mission and intent clearly in the documents that we control, such as the By-Laws and the Town Master Plan our intentions will be made clear and there will be little question or confusion on how the Heritage Commission will stand as building and demolition plans progress. The Commission will review and modify these suggestions and form a united opinion over the year. Mark offered the services of the Planning Board to assist.

Other discussion The group discussed the progress in the sale of the historically important Colonel Shepard Tavern. There is an interested buyer that remains anonymous for the time being. Their expressed intent to tastefully upkeep the property was welcome news.

Date of Next Meeting

July 11, 2018

Call to Adjourn

Chairman