

Peterborough Heritage Commission Minutes December 3, 2015

Present: Peggy Shaughnessy, Sheila Kirkpatrick, Bruce Batten, Mose Olenik

Absent: Richard Estes, Melissa Stephenson, Debby Kaiser, Tyler Ward

GAR Hall:

Peggy summarized our November meeting with Rodney with Sheila Kirkpatrick, who was unable to attend. Issues then discussed were the topography of the walls and who will hold the Preservation Easement.

All were in agreement that we recommend that the Easement be held by the NH Preservation Alliance. Bruce Batten made a motion, seconded by Sheila Kirkpatrick that a letter be sent by Peggy to Rodney stating that we would not support changes in the topography and the elevation of the building no more than 10 feet from the existing wall. Motion passed unanimously.

It was also disclosed that the closing of the sale of the GAR has been pushed back.

Main Street Bridge Mitigation Recommendations:

1. Given the historical and architectural significance of the Main Street bridge to the look and atmosphere of downtown Peterborough, it is requested that the stones of the existing bridge be removed, categorized, and then installed on the surface of the new bridge so as to resemble the existing bridge as much as possible.
2. It is understood that the closure of the Main Street bridge during construction may possibly have some adverse impact on Main Street businesses. It is also understood that it may be perceived by some that the installation of the existing current bridge stones on the new bridge may lengthen the duration of construction and adversely affect on businesses. To demonstrate the importance of maintaining the look of the current bridge through the installation of the stone on the new bridge, a pamphlet would be developed outlining the history of the current bridge and its historical and architectural importance to the look and atmosphere of downtown Peterborough. The pamphlet should also demonstrate how the atmosphere and look of downtown Peterborough benefits commerce by attracting visitors who patronize downtown businesses.
3. It is also requested that planter boxes be constructed to replace the current bridge planter boxes in consultation with Francie VonMertens whose husband Karl had created the current boxes and that are maintained by Francie and other volunteers for the beautification of the bridge and gateway to Main Street Peterborough.

Photography Exhibit:

Mose Olenik reported that the new photography exhibit "Impressions of Peterborough" is up and ready for the opening on Friday 12/4 and that the newspaper had printed the announcement along with the winning photograph.

It was moved by Bruce Batten and seconded by Sheila Kirkpatrick that a check be written to the winner of the contest, Dan Millbauer, for \$100.00 and another check to Mary "Mose" Olenik to cover expenses of the exhibit mainly the printing of the photos. Mose reported that the bill is slightly under \$110.00.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Board members committed to all contribute to the reception.

Dick Estes on Global Warming:

Dick had requesting via email that he would like the town to address the impact of Global Warming on Peterborough in an informed and strategic way. He asked if the Heritage Commission might be the

entity to take the lead. Discussion concluded that the Heritage Commission is aware of the importance but the Conservation Commission or the town itself might better. More discussion will follow when Dick returns.

Other Business:

Peggy would like to review the plans for Mr. Mike's re: the "green screen" and what the actually will mean.

Recently Agway came before the Planning Board with a remodeling plan and again there is a concern about a plan for a "green screen".

There was discussion about the Commission recognizing and thanking owners of particular buildings that have tastefully renovated, protecting their historical qualities. Bruce had suggested that the new Mexican restaurant on Grove, Cafe Olla (sp) be recognized.

Submitted by Mose Olenik