

## **Peterborough Heritage Commission**

### **Approved Minutes August 17, 2017 5:30 p.m.**

Present: Bruce Batten; Richard Estes; Mose Olenik; Tina Rapp, Peggy Shaughnessy; Melissa Stephenson; Doug Ward, Tyler Ward, *Select board liaison*

Absent: Debby Kaiser; Sheila Kirkpatrick, *Alternate*

#### **I. Membership for Monadnock Center for History and Culture**

**Motion:** The Heritage Commission to use \$100 of its annual budget money to renew its yearly membership at the MCHC.

Bruce Batten seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Action Item:** Mose will request the funds for this purpose from the Town.

#### **I. Approval of June and July 2017 Minutes**

**Motion:** Mose moved to approve the July minutes with the addition of one corrected typo.

Doug Ward seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Motion:** Mose moved to approve June minutes as presented.

Doug Ward seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Action Item:** Melissa will send the June and July minutes as approved to the Town.

#### **II. McGreal House**

- PHC will write a letter to NH Division of Forests and Lands c/o administrator Susan Francher, requesting information as to where the NHDFL are in the process of meeting with the McGreal House trustees and raising money for the improvement of the McGreal property.
- Discussion followed as to protocol for allowing all members to review the letter prior to sending. It was generally agreed that drafts may be sent electronically to individual commissioners for feedback and the letter will be approved at the September meeting.

**Action Item:** Peggy Shaughnessy and Tina Rapp will draft this correspondence.

### **III. Rite Aid Project, the remaining house on Route 202 South, the Long House**

- It was noted that the remaining house across from the new Exxon station on Route 202 south is owned by Rite Aid Corp.
- The Commission is interested in knowing what the corporate plan for this building is.
- Tyler Ward, chairman of the PHC Demolition Committee, met with MacDowell Colony director David Macy, for a walk-through of the Long House, the MacDowell-owned house on Union street, noting their plan is to demolish it.
- Tyler will be in further discussion with David Macy about these plans.
- Doug Ward brought up the topic of other dangerous buildings in town that should be taken down. The commissioners questioned at what point does town step in.
- Mose noted that it has been her experience in California that once the state or county health department condemns a building, there is a time limit for demolition.

**Action Item:** Doug Ward will meet with Town Building Inspector Dario Carrara to discuss abandoned properties, and all properties in general, for clarification on this topic.

### **IV. Town House and Monadnock Center Anniversary Celebration**

- Peterborough Town Hall and the Monadnock Center for History and Culture celebration of their 100th Year Anniversary commences in 2018.
- The celebrations wrap up in November, 2018 with a Veterans Day event.
- Smaller events are in the planning stages for every few months throughout the year.
- PHC plans an art show of photographs of the construction of the town house, including a bill of sale for the bricks. An article in the paper about the architecture of the structure will accompany the exhibit which is planned to open the first Friday in February 2018.
- MCHC director Michelle Stahl is collecting photos for PHC to use.
- To insure good attendance, it was suggested that the Heritage Commission invites town committee members to the show.
- Discussion regarding the need for cards, perhaps using an old photograph, or photos by the winners from prior Heritage photography contests, ensued.

## **V. Membership**

- Peggy requested to step down from her position as Chair, after several years of service.
- Discussion followed regarding parceling out some of her duties to others more comfortable with some of the chairmanship tasks, including correspondence and public speaking.
- It was noted that although the term of service on the PHC is clearly marked as three years, town records of individual members' terms need further clarification.
- Peggy suggested we officially thank people on the anniversary date of their term(s) of service, reflecting them in the minutes.

**Action Item:** Melissa will check with the town regarding above.

## **VI. New Business**

- Mose has been in touch with the Camarata photography group via Francie Von Mertens and they're committed to an exhibit beginning the first Friday in October.
- Mose also noted that there should be another contest held in the spring.
- Invitations to the opening will come from PHC to contributing photographers.

## **Go Monadnock**

- Kim Graham administers a Facebook page, GoMonadnock, which is a clearing house for any event going on in town.
- GoMonadnock also has a presence on the web at [www.gomonadnock.com](http://www.gomonadnock.com).

## **Special Town Meeting**

There is a special town meeting scheduled for October 26 regarding the creation of a South Peterborough Tax Finance Zone.

## **Old Business**

The Scott Farrar board of directors agreed to create two or three small printed projects for the Town in exchange for receipt of rural development money for the new facility. Because they did not receive any funding from this source, are they still obligated to produce the collateral?

**Action Item:** Peggy will check with MCHC to see if they can clarify this issue.

**GAR Update**

It was mentioned that there was a good article in *Keene Sentinel* about progress. Whether or not Post and Beam Brewery will open in December as planned is yet to be determined.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Stephenson, *Peterborough Heritage Commission*

The next meeting of the PHC is Thursday, September 7, 2017, 5:30 p.m.