

## **Peterborough Heritage Commission**

### **Approved Minutes**

**October 12, 2017 5:30 p.m.**

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

**Absent:** Debby Kaiser

Peggy Shaughnessy opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

#### **GAR Hall Update**

- Post and Beam Brewery owner Ericka Rosenfeld notified the Heritage Commission that she has decided not to pursue exposing the beams in the GAR ceiling.
- Tyler Ward updated the committee as to what transpired prior to the September 15 on-site meeting at the GAR Hall regarding changes to the building plan that would differ from the signed preservation easement. It was mentioned that request for a meeting was rushed and the request for any proposed changes were not backed up by drawings. Minutes of this meeting on September 15 2017 have been filed separately.
- Bill Harper has asked that Tyler no longer visit the construction site.
- Doug Ward questioned whether or not the town should hold easements on properties like the GAR Hall moving forward because for one reason, the state energy code cannot be overridden by town. This is something learned from experience on this project. Any changes to the building would have added to further planning, and a review and/or rewrite of the current signed easement.

#### **Town House and Monadnock Center Centennial Celebrations**

- The year-long Centennial Celebration will begin on October 26, 2017 and culminate on Veterans' Day, 2018. Peggy will meet with Wayne and Dee Thomas as to the role of the Heritage Commission in planning celebratory events.
- Peggy Shaughnessy will continue to invite members of the Patriotic Committee to participate in the Commission's planning of the simultaneous celebration the two buildings (the Town House and Monadnock Center for History and Culture).
- There is a MCHC meeting scheduled for Oct 26 along with a dissertation on the two buildings. At that time, the time capsule will be opened and its contents reviewed.

- In February there will be a display of photos of the construction and demolition of both buildings that includes a series of photographs by the same photographer taken from the same vantage points.
- It was noted the PHC has 20 frames for photos.
- Planning by the Commission includes written and email invitations and refreshments served on upper level of the Town House for the photography opening. The designated budget for the Centennial Events is \$5000.
- It was suggested that the Commission invite family members of the original photographer and architects of both buildings.
- The exhibit will run thru May.
- A mini-open house in April, 2018 at Monadnock Center for History and Culture will display artifacts, building plans, additional photos and documents revolving around the construction of these buildings.
- Tyler wondered whether High school students could display their images of the building at a future PHC photography exhibit.
- Peggy noted there is a pamphlet/calendar of events being prepared that includes a Peterborough scavenger hunt for children.
- A display that includes all businesses replicating past photos of business townspeople standing in front of the Town House and displaying both the old and the new is also in the planning stages. PHC will help approach businesses to pose for this
- Peggy will send an updated copy of the schedule of events to all Commission members.

### **Photo Exhibits**

- It was noted that there is time to think about what future exhibits the PHC would like to see in the Town House stairwell hallway and how long to leave them on display.
- The recent opening of “Peterborough as Muse” was a charming event, despite being attended mainly by members of the Heritage Commission and the photographers themselves.
- Discussion followed regarding the purpose of exhibits, which is to bring townspeople into the Town Hall, and the need for lighting for the stairwell display area.

### **Approval of September 14, 2017 Minutes and the September 15th meeting at GAR Hall**

- The two sets of minutes were approved as amended.

**New Business/ Old Business**

- Dick Estes mentioned a talk at the Toadstool a colleague of his would deliver on the coming Saturday, encouraging members to attend. Estes will give the introduction.
- **Treasurer Position**  
The Commission needs to fill the position of treasurer. It was noted that the current budget of \$1000 yearly is primarily used for memberships and event supplies

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa Stephenson, Peterborough Heritage Commission*

The next meeting of the PHC is Thursday, November 9th at 5:30 p.m. Peterborough Town Hall