

Minutes for Thursday, JULY 12, 2012, PETERBOROUGH HERITAGE COMMISSION

The Heritage Commission's mission is to identify, preserve and protect the architectural, historical, cultural, and social heritage, including historical landscapes, view sheds, building in their landscapes, the natural resources and the ecological diversity formed by the rivers, valley, and mountains, in order to sustain the spirit of the community and its economic vitality, for the benefit of future generations.

The commission proposes to do this by assembling an inventory of those resources, and working with other local boards and committees, state agencies, as well as private citizens, for the proper recognition, use and protection of these special historical features to achieve our goals.

The regular meeting of the HC was convened on July 12, 5:07.

Present were: Duffy Monahan, Debby Kaiser, Sheila Kirkpatrick, Mose Olenik, Bob Duhaime.

The GAR hall purchase was reviewed, noting that a decision on the purchase of the property is waiting for Board of Selectmen final approval, after gathering more public input on the appropriate disposal of the statuary.

Noteworthy is the discovery of our GAR hall as the subject of the painting " Martyr Hill", in the Historical Center of Minneapolis.

Two new applications for Demolition Permits were reviewed, 87 Grove St. and 75 Main St.. Both were found significant and decisions were deferred until after the required public hearings.

Both properties were described by the owners as too expensive to rehabilitate; the Main St. property was proposed as tear-down to provide needed parking for the adjoining lot, of the same owner. The Grove ST owners want to tear-down and rebuild a similar house, in keeping with the Vitorian neighborhood. Both properties are at highly visable historic locations, at the entry ways into the downtown area.

The HC will present some new findings on the benefits of rehabilitation. Public hearings are scheduled for 7/27, at 6:15, and 8/6, at 5pm.

Bridge Repair for Rt. 101 revealed that any sidewalk requests needed to appear on the Master Plan before DOT can consider the proposal. The Master Plan committee has been noticed.

The HC has been alerted to the plight of the Peterborough Movie Theatre, facing financial hardship in anticipating updating to accommodate Digital services. As a cultural and financial asset to Our Town, the Hc should offer assistance and support for their technical improvements.

In other business, the HC moved to meet with the Parks Committee regarding the placement and re-arranging of historic monuments, and the lack of consultation with the HC and P.C. on these matters. We believe we have been overlooked in these changes to public property, while this is our purview. The Selectboard will be noticed of this concern.

Sheila Kirkpatrick, secretary

Next regular meeting August 9, 5pm