

ASHLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION

MAY 10, 2016

Members present: Maher, MacLeod, Ruell, Stevens
Others present: Christa McDonald

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Fire Station.

Minutes On a motion by MacLeod, seconded by Maher, the minutes for April 12 were approved with the following change replacing “all expenditures would be approved by at least two Commissioners” with “all expenditures under \$500 must be submitted for payment by one Commissioner if it adheres to the approved budget and any expenditure over \$500 requires approval by two Commissioners before payment may be processed.”

Correspondence The only correspondence was the NH Humanities calendar.

Finances Maher reported that advertising revenue for the Fourth of July was coming in and that over \$5000 had been raised for the 2017 celebration. By the end of this year's holiday, about \$21,000 will have been raised for next year, \$18,000 for fireworks and \$3000 for the parade. MacLeod noted that the AARA will transfer the remainder of the Fourth of July funds to the Heritage Fund, probably in August.

Barn Survey Stevens explained that, because of family emergencies, he was not able to do as much as he had planned on the barn survey. He has been driving around town looking at barns. He suggested that the survey, at least at the start, should concentrate on agricultural barns, rather than on the many stables found in the village. Ruell noted that some village stables that have been turned into houses and apartments. After discussion, the consensus was that we should all make lists of barns. Maher suggested using the July meeting to combine the lists and begin planning the inventory. Stevens will e-mail all a sample inventory form. It was agreed that the July 12 meeting will focus on the barn survey, working on the barn list and the inventory

form.

Town Hall Maher had spoken to both the Town Administrator and the Police Chief, who approved the proposed inventory of the Town Hall. She suggested that it could be done in the fall.

MacLeod had recently attended a workshop on LCHIP grants, where she learned about possible planning grants for historic building assessment and historic structure reports. These are 50% matching grants, but up to half of the local match could be in-kind services. She noted that such reports are needed to apply for an LCHIP or USDA grant. The cost of such a report would be around \$10,000. MacLeod suggested that some of the left over Master Plan funds could be applied to the grant. Last year, 32 of the 40 applicants for LCHIP grants received funding. The first step in the process is submitting a letter of intent to submit an application. The deadlines are May 20 for the letter of intent and June 23 for the application. (Submitting the letter of intent does not require the Town to submit an application.) On a motion by Stevens, seconded by Maher, it was voted 4 to 0 to submit a letter of intent. MacLeod will work on the draft letter of intent, communicate with the selectmen, and take the lead on getting a contractor's estimate and preparing the application.

Whipple House The Selectmen would like a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the Heritage Commission and the Historical Society Board to discuss the Whipple House, but a date has not been arranged yet.

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

David Ruell, Recording Secretary