

ASHLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION

MARCH 20, 2018

Members Present: MacLeod, DeWolfe, Maher, Ruell, Sharps

(Note: Following her election as Selectman, DeWolfe was appointed the Selectman Alternate to the Commission.)

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. in the Fire Station.

Minutes. On a motion by Maher, seconded by DeWolfe, it was voted to approve the February 13 minutes as written.

Treasury. Maher reported that there was no change in the current budget since February. She has been unable to confirm that the leftover 2017 budget funds have been transferred to the Heritage Fund, as she has had no response from the Town Treasurer to her inquiries of February 14 and March 1. She therefore asked about making a 91-A request for the appropriate MVSB bank statement to see if the transfer to a separate Heritage Fund took place. After some discussion, on a motion by Maher, seconded by Sharps, it was voted to make a 91A request for the MVSB bank statement for the Heritage Fund. Maher also expressed her appreciation of Patsy Tucker for the records she kept of the 2017 Fourth of July funds turned into the Town Office. She noted that the Town's 2017 year end report of the Heritage Commission budget was correct.

LCHIP Grant. The warrant article for the LCHIP grant for the Town Hall Planning Study passed in its second attempt. Maher credited the video tour of the Town Hall as making the difference. The Commission reviewed the draft RFP for the study and the Town Administrator's request for recommendations of firms to be sent the RFP. After reviewing the NH Preservation Alliance's directory, it was voted, on a motion by Maher, seconded by Sharps, to recommend Christopher P. Williams Architects of Meredith, Samyn-D'Elia Architects of Ashland, and Sheer McCrystal Palson

Architecture of Concord. The completion date for the study was discussed. It is supposed to be 24 months from the award of the grant. An entire year was lost between the two votes on accepting the grant, which may not leave enough time to do the study. The consensus was to ask the Town Administrator to find out the exact date for the completion of the study and how to get an extension of that date, if necessary. Ruell suggested two changes to Section II, dropping the reference to the fire escape as it is unclear whether the present fire escape dates from 1905 or the 1950s, and restoring a missing quotation mark. Maher made those corrections on the document. At the end of the meeting, fundraising options for the study were discussed.

Barn Survey. DeWolfe suggested that the Currier barn near Cedar Lane be added to the survey.

House Photo Project. Maher has set up the internet accounts for the project. She suggested promoting the project during the summer as part of the 150th Anniversary and continuing it beyond 2018.

Squamstock. Maher passed out Squamstock stickers. They cost 50 cents each to produce. The idea was to collect donations for them to offset the cost of the event. Strategies for collecting those donations were reviewed. The dates of June 9 and 23, July 1 and 14, were presented to Riveredge Marina. Maher would like to talk to Barry Gaw to see which date is the least disruptive to the marina operation. Later, Maher asked about September as an alternate date. The commissioners were agreeable to exploring that option. Maher will contact the various parties involved about the September option. It would allow for the students in the summer programs of the two towns to make art for sale as well. Maher suggested selling the art before the event in other venues. She also noted that some artists are willing to donate their work for sale to support the school art programs. The consensus was to contact artists to see if they wish to be involved. Seasonal art shows as a venue for such sales were also mentioned. Maher asked about permits. Sharps explained that the Selectmen would have to approve an events permit. Possible grants from the NEA, NH Charitable Fund and the Awesome Foundation were discussed.

2018 Programs. Formerly, the Commission had planned for four historic programs during the year. It was decided to combine two of those programs, on the veterans celebrations (Memorial Day and Veterans Day) and the war memorials into one program around Memorial Day. Wednesday, May 30, the traditional Memorial Day, is the preferred date and the Legion Hall is the preferred location. Ruell will provide the talks he gave on those three subjects and photos from the Historical Society collection for the creation of a power point presentation. The possibility was raised of having people bring military memorabilia for display. We would try to have a draft of the program ready by our April 10 meeting.

The Commission also discussed the 2018 TOADD. Maher suggested that the project be organizing and cataloging the records on the third floor of the Town Hall, probably in the fall. This would require the permission of the Selectmen and the oversight of the Town Clerk. Sharps and DeWolfe will bring the issue to the Selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.