

Approved: March 12, 2012

MERRIMACK HERITAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES – JANUARY 9, 2012

7:02 PM

Location: Community Development Conference Room

ATTENDANCE: Anita Creager, Lynne Wenz, Janice Brown, Deborah Bult, Lexi Keef. This formed a quorum. Absent: Finlay Rothhaus.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 PM

REVIEW AND APPROVAL MINUTES: Following review, Lynne made a motion to approve the December 2011 minutes with no corrections. Second by Deborah. Vote 4-0-0.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COMMISSION: none

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: The Merrimack Heritage Commission still has 3 vacancies: 1 regular and 2 alternate members. Lynne indicated she may know of someone interested in serving.

OLD BUSINESS:

Display Case: Anita reported that now with the World War II display in the display case, she has posted notices in the Telegraph newspaper, and on Patch (internet news) informing the public of its existence. Discussion ensued regarding the date for placement of the next exhibit, and what topic would be the focus, including these suggestions: locks and canals, teachers, school houses, restaurants, early industry.

Action: Janice will be meeting with Nicholas Lavalley soon to be interviewed for a brief video about this exhibit. The date scheduled for the next (new) exhibit will be June 2012, the topic and person(s) working on the exhibit to be discussed and determined at a later date.

Portraits for Town Hall: Anita presented a quotation that Janice obtained from Ritz Camera in Nashua, Jeffrey Stallard, Retail Sales Manager. The quotation states that to create five 24x36 inch canvas prints (gallery wrapped and ready to hang) the cost would be \$500 (\$25 set up fee to convert tif files and process order, \$95 per gallery wrapped canvas, 24x36 inches). The turn around time is 14-21 business days. The files can be delivered on a disc or a jump drive. Discussion ensued and the Commission members felt the price to be reasonable. Photographs to be processed in this way are: Robert McGaw, James Masticola (from school sketch), Walter Kittredge (full body view), Gen. Edward Haseltine, Emma Cross (duplicate photo in the library), and Abbie Griffin. This price does not include framing. Janice made a motion to move forward with processing these photographs at Ritz Camera. Second by Anita. Vote 4-0-0.

Action: Janice to initiate the process with Jeff Stallard regarding the billing process, and obtain the graphics for the canvas prints. Lexi Keef will speak with Chuck Mower regarding his availability to create frames for same. The frames should be similar to the ones currently framing the photographs in the upper hallway of the Town Hall extension.

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Christmas Cards: Discussion on the Christmas cards that were initiated several years ago by this Commission, and now sold out, new ones are needed. The vendor who made the cards does not have the original artwork, and so new photography is required. At the recent craft fair 2 these cards were sold for \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10. Discussion ensued on what locations should be photographed and whether they should be all new photographs or a combination of new and old.

Action: Members of the Commission will be compiling lists of potential locations/scenes to be photographed, to be presented at the next meeting. Also at the next meeting Anita will present more information on who could take the actual photographs at the next meeting.

Chamberlain Bridge Dam Plaque and Sign: Anita indicated that the plaque for the Chamberlain Dam that is in the possession of the Merrimack Parks & Recreation Department has still not been placed. It has been delayed due to finding a rock and the logical location would be near the fire station. (Note that the dam was removed in 2008).

Anita reported she spoke with Crown Trophy in Concord, NH regarding the cost of a metal plaque for Chamberlain Bridge (not the dam). It would be approximately 58 inches long and cost \$2700. Discussion ensued regarding this plaque, and instead of placing a plaque on the actual bridge to instead using a street-type-sign to include the name of the bridge and the year originally built (1734), and be visible on both sides (so vehicles in either direction would see it)

Action: Anita to investigate the possibility of using a post/podium style to display the Chamberlain Dam sign instead of using a rock. Anita also to contact Richard Seymour's office (Public Works) to investigate who determines street signage styles and gives final approval for placement.

Seaverns-Fields Bridge Sign: Anita indicated that the sign for Seaverns Bridge is also being quoted by Crown Trophy, and will cost about \$300.

Action: Anita is waiting to hear from Crown Trophy regarding the final cost. They are trying to determine the process for the photograph of the bridge to be incorporated on the sign. She will report additional information at next meeting.

Town Tour Brochures: Lexi and Anita indicated there is nothing to report at this time.

Action: This topic to be continued to the next meeting.

Adaptive Use Plaques: Anita reported that she obtained a report from the town's tax office of structures build before 1950, sorted in order of lot number. She has a print out on 11x14 paper. She is going to convert the list to the order of street address to help mesh this with the other lists she has from Scott, etc. An electronic copy of this report was previously sent to all of the Commission members.

Action: Anita will continue to mesh these various property lists.

Town Master Plan Committee: Nothing to report, other than that the January 19th meeting has been postponed, and no new date has been announced.

Action: Topic to be continued to next meeting.

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Freedom's Way Committee: Anita reported that the check as payment for the town of Merrimack joining this group has been cashed, but she has been unable to receive any further information.

Action: Topic to be continued to next meeting.

Cemeteries (Turkey Hill Project, Procedures, Bower's Grave): Anita reported that the Turkey Hill Project of realigning the tombstones, begun by the Scouts is now delayed until Spring due to frozen Ground. She also reported that she and Lexi have photographs of the 3 Bower's grave. Lexi Keef indicated she is interested in becoming involved with the Turkey Hill Project.

Action: None, Informational. Janice indicated she is interested in receiving an electronic copy of the photographs.

Craft Fair Donation: Anita reported that she is still waiting for the Town Finance Department to provide a check from the Heritage Commission to give to the Historical Society for one-half cost of the booth at the Craft Fair.

Action: Item continued to next meeting.

Annual Report of the Heritage Commission: Anita reported that on February 9, 2012, she will be formally presenting our Commission's annual report (for 2011) to the Town of Merrimack. Members have received a copy of this electronically previous to this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to be presented.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM. *The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2012 at 7:00 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Brown, Secretary