

Merrimack Heritage Commission – Meeting Minutes 13-March-2023

Attendance: Heritage Commission – Chip Pollard, John Frechette

Guests – John Lastowka (Historical Society), Chuck Mower (Historical Society)

1915 hrs: Meeting called to order by Chip Pollard

1920 hrs: Review and approval of prior minutes

- There was no quorum, so voting to accept the October, December, January, and February meeting minutes could not occur.

1920 hrs: Treasury Accounting

- The Historical Society received payment for the Heritage Commission table at the K of C craft fair.

1925 hrs: Old King's Highway

- A discussion regarding neighborhoods developed on tracts of the Old Kings Highway and what the original deeds of those properties may have stipulated about the use and access to the class VI roadway.
- A discussion regarding the process of researching the old deeds.
- A discussion regarding the original path of Old King's Highway from Boston Post Road to the Thornton's Ferry Crossing.

1940 hrs: New Passaconaway Tree

- A visit to the potential "New Passaconaway Tree" is postponed until the snow melts. UNH Cooperative Natural Resource Specialist Mary Tebo Davis is ready to visit.
- The New Passaconaway Tree is not required to be a State Champion Tree
- A trail system would need to be developed to the site. It could possibly be a loop trail to include a riverside view of the Passaconaway Islands on the Merrimack.
- The proposed tree measures 152 inches in circumference. The specie cannot be identified by the bark alone due to the age of the tree.
- Chip also mentioned an apple tree on the Thomas More College property that may constitute a Champion Tree.

1950 hrs: Heritage Commission Filing

- The Heritage Commission files were relocated from the closet to the filing storage room.
- Every month, the members will divide up a drawer and review the files. The files will be separated into three categories; files to keep, files of potential interest, and paperwork for potential discard.
- The files to keep will be categorized and indexed on a word document. The potential and discard piles will be addressed at the next meeting for disposition.

- John F. completed his review of files from February. The files were separated into categories of Administrative, Resources, Events, Historic Places, Historic Residences, Historic People.
- Chip advised that the Commission should also consider scanning files and making the information available on our website.

2035 hrs: Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting: April 10, 2023

DRAFT