

Approved: November 18, 2019

HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

OCTOBER 14, 2019

ATTENDANCE : Gigi Jennings, Anita Creager, Ralph Gerenz and Liaison Barbara Heaney. Absent: Chip Pollard. This constitutes a quorum.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES: Reviewed and approved Sept. minutes

MEMBERSHIP: Still seeking one full member and 3 alternates. Still anticipate Marc Nozell's application.

OLD BUSINESS:

Old Home Signs: Anita has updated the list of homes with signs from all four phases. There are still 44 which we need to verify whether signs are actually on the homes. Some are from this year. List is included with the minutes. Updated list attached.

Simon's Rock: Anita and Barbara . Barbara talked with Eileen Cabernal and learned that the town's lawyer agrees that Pennichuck is not liable for anyone being injured on the property. She needs to review the correspondence from Eileen to determine whether the lawyers have spoken.

Hazen Mill Site: Gigi has spoken with someone with a drone, who needs more information on location and owner before attempting photos of mill site. May be visible from across river when leaves are gone from trees.

Old King's Highway status: Gigi and Chip will work together to determine what information we have and expand it. Anita is waiting to hear from Kyle Fox as to who to contact regarding responsibility and regulations. Special interest is the portion where a canvas "garage" has been erected. Our hope is still to provide signage at access points, once we have a useable map with what we have determined is/was the route. Design for sign to be determined.?

Original old schoolhouse and fire station signs. Anita will provide locations where signs to be erected and eventually attempt to get permission to post them on any private properties involved.

Website: Topic suggestions include: Stone walls, barns, OKH locations, Old home signs, updates of Village brochures, district schools, locations of fire, police stations and articles submitted to newspapers .

Stone walls: Anita has acquired three large town maps to trace locations of old stone walls. The state website, GRANIT, has a stone wall mapper link, which has many entries for Merrimack. Anita has entered data from previous contributors, and has obtained another map to finalize and then search for more. Commission members will seek more information from the "mapper" and personal observations. Barbara will review data from Frain and Hoye. Ralph will review walls on and near his property. Gigi will review area east of DW Highway in Reeds Ferry area including walls around graveyard. Anita will review data from Kurt Conrad and Aaron Stark as well as near Meetinghouse Graveyard. Will ask for information from John Lastowka near Horse Hill. We will enter these data at our upcoming meetings, in various colors to indicate sources. Once it is complete, Anita will submit the final copy to Kyle to produce a map with public access.

Old Tree list: Ralph will review the listing of state and county "Champion Trees" listed by UNH

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to understand the meanings of the headings and ID #'s. (Points, CBH, VH, ACS). There are three trees listed in Merrimack: Common shagbark #496, Eastern Redcedar #433 and American Sycamore #434. Anita visited the property and Sycamore tree at 33 Seaverns Bridge Rd, but unable to meet with Jacqueline Patten, the owner. Ralph will seek access to more details on locations.

BAE deed review. Gigi is working on locating past properties involved with use of map showing deeds with emphasis on the Blanchard/Bowers historic properties.

John Wheeler portrait. Anita has given the plate to Becky Thompson, who will arrange for it to be installed on the portrait frame. Other plates are already in place.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Sklar property – No further information. Barbara stated that it is still an active item on Conservation Commission plans. Subcommittee has not yet been activated.

Old Blood and Grater Roads: Dates to walk in future.

Scavenger Hunt: Anita has prepared list of past and 12 potential sites for use in the future.

Old Barn Listing: None exists that we know of, although we understand one was suggested.

Anita reminded Commission that she plans to step down as chairman in June 2020, but hopes to remain as a member.

Next meeting: November 18, due to conflict with Veteran's Day holiday.