

# **Stratham Heritage Commission**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**October 11, 2017**

**7:00 pm**

**Land Use Conference Room**

Present: Nathan Merrill, Rebecca Mitchell, Wallace Stuart, Florence Wiggin, Tammy Hathaway

Absent: David Canada, Michael Houghton

Guests: David Short (until 7:45 pm), Tavis Austin (after 8:00 pm)

**CONVENED:** At 7:05 pm Mr. Merrill asked for a motion to go into a non-public session, citing

- (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

(Mr. Stuart, Ms. Mitchell, unanimous). Returned to public session at 8:00 pm with a motion to adjourn non-public session and seal the minutes (Mr. Stuart, Ms. Mitchell unanimous).

Secretary's Report: The redistributed minutes with the revised planning board notes of the September 13, 2017 meeting were approved (motion Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Stuart, unanimous)

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Stuart reported that the commission has \$1,519.39 remaining in its operating budget. The most recent balance for the Heritage Fund is \$7,024.26. The Heritage Preservation Fund balance is \$93,489.00.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Planning Board: Mr. Austin reported that the planning board is working on details of the town regulations for sub-divisions and cell towers and a Request for Proposals is about to be issued for the Master Plan.

Technical Review Committee: Mr. Merrill reported that the TRC has not met.

Demolition Review Committee: A demolition application for a garage and breezeway at 155 Bunker Hill Ave. has been submitted to the building inspector's office, but not

received yet by Mr. Merrill due to the CEO/BI being away at a conference. Ms. Mitchell distributed an information sheet “Historic and Historically Significant” written by Joanna McKnight, a Preservation Services Manager for Historic New England, for Commission members to read. Ms. Mitchell suggests sharing this article with the CEO/BI, as it helps to define and clarify historic significance.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bartlett-Cushman House: Ms. Mitchell reported that the contractor Chris Bickford is scheduled to start the barn roof work project tomorrow. Mr. Austin reported that he and Paul Deschaine with the help of Mr. Jim Cushman found the well in front of the house.

16 Emery’s Lane: Ms. Mitchell reported the property is now officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Merrill distributed copies of the Weekly Market Bulletin dated October 11, 2017 with an article from NH Commissioner of Agriculture, Markets & Food Lorraine S. Merrill about the property’s listing to the Register. The Commission thanked Ms. Mitchell for all her work on this project.

Portsmouth Avenue Survey: Lisa Mausolf, is working on deed research and will be done with the project by the end of the year. Ms. Mitchell has been assisting by providing additional information and resources to Ms. Mausolf.

Old Town Hall: Ms. Mitchell will get in touch with a staff member at NH Preservation Alliance to visit the building for an informal assessment.

Scamman Farm: Ms. Mitchell reported that the Scammans have received the written report on the smaller historic barn from consultant Robert Pothier, and will coordinate a time for Peter Michaud of the NH Division of Historical Resources to do a walk around in preparation for nominating the property to the National Register.

Parker Cabin: Mr. Merrill had nothing to report

Veterans’ Memorial Garden: Ms. Mitchell had nothing to report

Photo Archives: Mr. Stuart reported he has been exploring options to transfer Heritage Commission photos from his personal Flickr account and will reach out to Paul Deschaine to determine if the Town has a preferred platform or account for archiving and accessing photographic content.

Website Update: Lesley Kimball, director of the Wiggin Memorial Library, is retrieving content and links that were lost when the new web site was launched. Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Merrill will work on updating and adding additional content and links over the winter months.

Membership: Nothing to report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None raised.

Next Meeting: November 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Land Use Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Hathaway  
Secretary