

# ASHLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION

## JANUARY 12, 2016

Members present: Maher, Ruell, Sharps, Stevens, DeWolfe  
Others present: Susan MacLeod

The meeting was called to order around 4 p.m. in the Fire Station.

On a motion by DeWolfe, seconded by Stevens, it was voted to approve the minutes of November 10.

Record Keeping and Website. The Commission reviewed a proposed list of the records that would be kept in the Commission's file drawer at the Town Office, including paper documents for the Commission, the Whipple House and Event Committees. Which documents should be placed on the webpage for the Commission was also discussed. The consensus was to put our agendas and minutes on the website, but not the documents for the Whipple House. DeWolfe noted that the old Historic Commission records are still found on the town website. MacLeod explained that they were on the old town website, which has not been updated since 2011. DeWolfe and Maher will work on printing out the Historic Commission material on the old website so that it will not be lost.

Budget. Stevens reported that the Selectmen had included the Commission's \$1000 budget request in their budget. Ruell added that the Budget Committee had also approved that amount. Stevens reported that the Selectmen had also authorized the Commission to accept donations. DeWolfe will place the minutes recording the Selectmen's decisions in the files. Maher had e-mailed the Fourth of July financial statement for the years 2010 through 2016.

Accounting. Maher had e-mailed a proposed Heritage Fund Accounting Protocol, which was reviewed by the Commission. One question was whether those handling cash will have to be bonded. Maher said that state law and

town policy will be checked on that issue. She will meet with town officials, the Town Administrator, Selectmen and Treasurer, to determine the proper protocol for handling funds.

Fourth of July. After some discussion, it was voted 5-0 on a motion by Maher, seconded by Sharps, that the Fourth of July Committee pay all 2016 expenses out of its AARA account and deposit all funds raised in 2016 in the Heritage Fund, and that, at the end of the year, all the remaining Fourth of July funds in the AARA account be turned over to the Heritage Fund. Maher said that the fireworks will be shot off from the school grounds on Saturday, July 2 (rain date- July 3) and that the parade will be on Monday, July 4.

Whipple House. Maher had e-mailed about 150 photos she had taken on a tour of the Whipple House by Historical Society directors. Ruell suggested that the Heritage Commission members should tour the Whipple House. They were willing and agreed on a tour at 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 14. Maher suggested that the Commission prepare a report on the condition of the Whipple House for the selectmen. She noted that the selectmen and Historical Society are working on the Whipple House lease. The list of needs in the Whipple House prepared by Ruell for the Historical Society Board and shared with the Commission has been enlarged by the addition of the apartment bedroom ceiling. On a motion by DeWolfe, seconded by Sharps, it was voted 4-0-1 that the Commission request the Selectmen to request that the Building Inspector inspect the Whipple House under RSA 674:4-a-b. DeWolfe will make the request.

Future Plans. Stevens suggested a barn survey in cooperation with the NH Preservation Alliance. MacLeod noted that some of the remaining Master Plan funds could be used for the survey. The Commission discussed the idea and how the results could be used. Stevens will attend a meeting on the state wide barn survey project.

Maher suggested asking everyone in town to take a picture of their house, perhaps with their family posed in front of it, for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and present it to the Historical Society, for exhibit and documentation of Ashland

as it is today. She also suggested updated aerial photos of Ashland. Stevens offered to fly his plane if someone would take the photographs.

DeWolfe suggested adding a layer of information on historic properties to the GIS mapping of Ashland.

Maher suggested that the Commission should make recommendations on town owned historic buildings.

NHHC Program. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stevens, it was voted 5-0 to accept the donation of \$50 for the Maggie Stier program “On This Spot Once Stood...” and to proceed with the program. Ruell will make the application to NHHC. The members had no preference for a date.

On a motion by Stevens, seconded by Sharps, it was voted to adjourn at 5:21 p.m.

David Ruell, Secretary