

# ASHLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION

## MAY 9, 2017

Members Present: MacLeod, Ruell, Sharps

(Maher and DeWolfe were absent with notice.)

Others Present: Anthony Adamsky, Maxwell Corbett, Steve Heath

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. in the Ashland Fire Station.

Minutes. On a motion by Sharps, seconded by MacLeod, it was voted to approve the April 11 minutes as written.

Finances. MacLeod had a statement of Commission accounts from the Town Office. It appeared that the \$265 bill for Fourth of July buttons was taken from the Commission's general fund rather than from the Fourth of July Fund. She will ask Maher to get the accounts corrected. The Commission has spent around \$130 of its appropriation to date.

Master Plan Update. Ruell pointed out a few minor factual errors. He suggested that the two recommendations that public and private buildings be nominated for the State Register of Historic Places should also include the National Register of Historic Places. The Commission agreed to reword the recommendation on adding historic sites to the inventory, so that it did not apply just to expanding the 1984 LRPC inventory, but instead become a general recommendation to survey the Town's historic buildings and sites. Some photos still need to be replaced. Other chapters are now being reviewed by the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. The master plan survey was discussed, with MacLeod showing examples from Claremont and Salisbury. MacLeod talked about establishing design standards as part of the site plan review process.

Heritage Commissions. Corbett and Adamsky are interested in establishing a Heritage Commission in Wentworth. The Commissioners explained the role and powers of Heritage Commissions and our experience in creating one.

Whipple House. Ruell reported that the Selectmen had approved the Historical Society's request to remove one tree between the Whipple House and the Whitten House. The Society Board has also asked the Selectmen for general permission to install electrical outlets as needed.

Town Wide Yard Sale. Ruell asked the Commission if they would approve having the Town Wide Yard Sale come under the Commission's sponsorship and therefore the Town's insurance. The AARA does not feel that the Yard Sale is in line with their stated purpose. Ruell mentioned the example of the Town of Belmont, which sponsors a Community Wide Yard Sale and uses Primex insurance. The protection of volunteers for Town sponsored events under Town insurance was reviewed. The other issue was the handling of the money raised by the event. Ruell noted that those funds are now used for three purposes 1) the expenses of the event (copying, ads, etc.), 2) the administrative expenses of the Community Council (state fees, PO Box rental, etc.) and 3) the expenses of Christmas Night (entertainment and Xmas decorations). The Commissioners indicated their support of the concept of Town sponsorship of the Yard Sale. Ruell will discuss the issue further with the Community Council. MacLeod will ask Maher to investigate the handling and distribution of the money.

Fourth of July. The problem of finding volunteers for the Fourth of July and the subsequent decision of the Fourth of July Committee to not raise money for fireworks in 2018 were discussed.

NH Preservation Alliance Conference. MacLeod reviewed the NHPA Conference that she and Maher attended, including a summary of notes from the conference sent out to the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.