

## CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 27 October, 2009 7:00 pm  
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Eric Lutz, Barbara Jones, Joyce Higgins, Aare Ilves, Selectperson Doug Ring, Carol Clark

Absent: Wesley Van Velsor, Terry Spilsbury

Alternate Commission member Aare Ilves sat in for Wesley Van Velsor

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Eric Lutz, chairperson.

1. Minutes for the 22 September 2009 meeting were approved as written.

2. Aare Ilves presented an update from the Tree Committee to include finances and projects.

10. Discussion was held regarding the warrant article request for 2010 to develop the Charlestown history book. It was mentioned that it would be beneficial if we could have something available for Old Home Day summer 2010. In order to present a concise package when the warrant article is requested, it was decided that we would need a rough time frame for the book to be available, as well as estimated costs to do so. Joyce will do some preliminary work to determine possible costs for software for indexing and a format for the genealogical section. Once that information is available, she will send it to the other Heritage Commission members for their input. We would probably need to present our warrant article information by mid-December, 2009. Discussion was held regarding possible persons who would be interested in being on a subcommittee for this effort. No names were identified to pursue.

Regular budget request for the Heritage Commission was discussed for 2010, with items including:

The continuation of the essay contest

New Charlestown welcome sign, with the Heritage Commission portion at \$800. to \$1,000.

Possible improvements to the town areas in front of Dan's and the town bulletin board, to include bricks, pavers, planters, and impact on plowing

It was suggested by Doug that we wait until proposed Main Street projects are done before requesting money to improve sidewalk areas. Joyce suggested that it would also be good to wait until we have more information on the cost of the Charlestown history book so as not to fragment our financial obligations.

It was suggested that we send a letter to the Select Board indicating that items left outside local businesses detract from Charlestown's image that we want to maintain. No action was taken regarding that letter.

For economic reasons, it was moved that the regular line item for the Heritage Commission request remain at \$1,500. for the 2010 budget. It was also moved that the Heritage Commission trees line request be reduced from \$2,000. to \$1,500. for the year 2010.

3. Eric filled the new scrapbooks with articles and dropped the books with Wes, who will then review them. It was suggested that we need to make a correspondence file, and Carol will see Marlene at the town office to make the new file. Previous correspondence is held in the scrapbooks.

4. Electrical box on the library lawn was moved, and Aare was able to have this done for \$427.28, well under the approved budget amount of \$800. It was voted to pay for these services once it was confirmed that all electrical items were still working. It was mentioned that additional covers on the library lawn also needed to be replaced, and it was voted to request Nickerson do this work with a budget amount of \$100.

5. Barbara, Joyce and Eric attended the Fort at No. 4 retreat on October 3, and presented their report on that meeting. There will be a follow-up meeting on November 10.

6. Eric drafted a letter to the Select Board for moving the cannon to a more secure area. Doug said there is space in the fire station for current housing, and also that there is discussion regarding making a separate building to house the cannon. It was voted to send this letter to the Select Board, and Eric will do this on Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.

7. Joyce updated the genealogy form and minor adjustments were suggested. Once those changes are made, we will ask that this form be put on the Charlestown web site. Joyce will write an article for OUR TOWN regarding this form, to include the form and suggest that people can choose to fill it out and send it in, or do it on-line. We would try to have it in the December edition of OUR TOWN. This form can also be handed out at voting time, and it was suggested that we remind our civic clubs of this effort. Contact person is Eric Lutz.

8. NH Dept. of Transportation now understands the problem with the Historic District sign located outside SCA, and will take action to have the snow plows move their blades to avoid the signs. NH Dept. of Transportation also said they have markers they can add as warnings for the plows.

9. It was suggested that we need a subcommittee for updating the previous histories on Charlestown, and that we would need a list of people who would be willing to form the nucleus of a subcommittee. We would need at least three people. As previously noted, no names were identified. Joyce presented some additional ideas for inclusion in the town history book.

11. Roughly 100 copies of the new Heritage Commission brochure were brought to the meeting and several were handed out to each member. These will be distributed to the Charlestown Senior Center, Women's club, Historical Society, Century 21, visitor information packets, town office, and library, among other organizations.

12. No new business was discussed.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Bakery building. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Clark  
Unapproved minutes

Attachments

