

CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 29 June, 2010 7:00 pm
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Eric Lutz, Barbara Jones, Joyce Higgins, Terry Spilsbury, Carol Clark, alternate Aare Ilves

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Chairperson Wesley Van Velsor

1. Minutes for the 25 May, 2010 meeting were approved.

2/3/5. Aare Ilves provided the Heritage Commission with a year-to-date financial report for its three accounts. It was noted that another \$2,000.00 had been transferred from the trust funds (Capital Reserve Fund) for the 3rd Charlestown History project expenses. To date, \$4,000.00 has been transferred from the trust funds to support the work on the 3rd History project. This last month the Commission also made the first payment of \$950.00 to start work on the new historic signs for Main Street. Another \$950.00 will be expensed when the signs are completed, leaving a current net available of \$84.45 in the general funds account.

It was suggested that the Heritage Commission put out a sign and box on Old Home Day to help solicit funds for the 3rd Charlestown History book. Checks may be made payable to the Charlestown Heritage Commission, and donations could be requested from Charlestown's civic groups for this project. Minor charges will be coming in for June expenses for the project, and it was moved and passed that Aare Ilves would be authorized to pay bills up to \$50.00 without a Commission vote. It was moved and accepted to put the financial report on file for audit.

3. Joyce Higgins reported that a 3rd Charlestown History notebook is being prepared for customer review on Old Home Day. Eric Lutz passed around papers listing finished sections that will be included in the 3rd History. Joyce stated that each item entered is currently reviewed by three people before it is considered ready for submission. Eric said that he would make up a form to be used on Old Home Day for people who wish to sign up to purchase a book prior to publication. This form would have contact information and a tear-off strip for their receipt. We would request a down payment of \$30.00, and would need a cash box with change. It was agreed that the Commission would offer 15% off the final price of the book, not including postage, for those who purchase a book prior to publication. A sign-up sheet was passed around for Commission members to man the table with the 3rd History's loose-leaf notebook on Old Home Day.

4/9. Terry Spilsbury summarized the June meeting with the Charlestown Historical Society when the winning essays were read and awards were presented. He suggested that next year this contest may possibly have an alternative format to the long-time Charlestown resident research and essay option. Terry and Carol will coordinate on an article for Our Town about the essay contest.

5. It was stated that the Charlestown Heritage Commission banner, to be used on Old Home Day, was at the Town Hall. This banner will be attached to Jay Fisher's wagon, where Wes Van

Velsor and Eric will be seated during the parade. Wes said that the cannon will be pulled by two oxen, and he will arrange to have access to the cannon the night before the parade.

6. Wes handed out the template that will be used for the new Charlestown welcome signs and requested the Commission members review the template and provide comments or suggestions. Discussion ensued, and it was decided that the design template with lettering proportions was the best overall choice for the new signs. Eric will talk to the Selectboard at their next meeting regarding the sign placements on Main Street. The State owns a portion of the property by the dry bridge and sidewalk near the proposed northern area of Main Street. Eric and Aare placed a stake in the ground at the approximate desired location, and they hope to get approval in July from the Selectboard for the sign placements.

7. It was mentioned that the Fort at #4 will be open again during selected times in July, but no action was requested from the Heritage Commission at this time.

8. It was decided to postpone writing a letter to the residents of Main Street, initially hoping to persuade all owners to make their property well-groomed and attractive. It was suggested that as the time approaches for the fall/winter holidays, a letter might be drafted to encourage the residents to display lights in their windows, and at the same time include a brochure from the Heritage Commission and suggest residents make sure the properties look their best.

10. Carol checked the Town website to confirm the Heritage Commission information and noted that Terry's dates of office indicate a 2011 end date. Terry will check his signed statement for dates of office.

11. Joyce Higgins offered photos of possible benches for the town, and said that each would be approximately \$200.00. No action was taken at this time.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for July 27 7:00 pm at the Bakery building. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm.

Carol Clark
Secretary

Approved minutes