

**HOOKSETT HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2023**  
**5:00 P.M.**  
**Hooksett Public Library - Village Depot Meeting Room**  
**31 Mt. St. Mary's Way, Hooksett, NH 03106**

**Attendance:**

Commission members: Tony Lacasse, Chair; Jordan Davis, Vice Chair (attended virtually); Vickie Desharnais, Alternate Member; Roger Duhaime, Member; John Giotas, Member  
 Members of the public: Marilyn Pelletier, granddaughter of Charles Hardy, author of Hooksett Historical Sketches; Mary Ann Wells, member of Rotary

Tony called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

Tony made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2022, December 2, 2022, and December 13, 2022 meetings. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Appointments: Vickie is now an alternate who will vote when there is a need for a quorum.

Hooksett History Book Update: Brittany and Vickie met to discuss the first stages of the book project. The process will begin with an event that invites community members to share their memories of Hooksett's history. It was suggested we may need more than one event. This will be held at the Library. The book to be published will include parts from history that Charles Hardy did not include, and will be a continuation where he left off. Tony suggested we publish a small book of memories, short stories, then a separate book that is an updated Hooksett Historical Sketches. This event will give us a sense of what information the community wants preserved in the book. Brittany and Vickie will put together an invite list for a series of events, shared as a Google sheet with Commission members. Brittany will research publishers and start reaching out about cost, information needed. Tony suggested contacting Phil Eich, who founded the company Storyville. Phil goes to communities and does forums with community members and creates a storyline for a book about the town. Tony will send his information to Vickie and Brittany.

Head School Marms Bank Account/Financing: Vickie shared that school groups have not been coming, so the Marms are considering opening the school quarterly and doing events. Another idea was shared to have a fundraiser with Rotary to have a haunted walk at Head's Pond and start at Head's Cemetery. Have the Head School open for refreshments throughout the evening.

Database of Historical Markers: Jordan asked that if any new historical markers are going to be added that he is notified so he can add them to the map. Jordan will send the current map to everyone.

Heritage Commission Files: Tony reminded everyone they can access the printed files anytime at the library. Brittany said Heather Rainier had done some cleaning up of files in the storage room. Brittany will speak with Mark Glisson at the Library about recommendations for storage and back up of Kathie Northrup's Heritage Commission digital files.

Bench dedication to Kathie Northrup: The bench is completed and will be installed this spring near the Lilac Bridge, on the side by the pump station. Suggestions were made to have a dedication ceremony for the bench. The Commission will aim to do this in May during Heritage Month.

Light Up The Village: Tony is looking for supporters to sign a petition to have the bridge permanently lit up. The request for signatures for the petition is currently shared on the Hooksett Community Facebook Group. He will share with all Commission members. He will eventually send the petition with signatures to Town Council. For fundraising to permanently light up the bridge, Tony spoke with a representative from New England Holiday Light Company. Their estimate is \$15,000-\$25,000 for permanent RGB lighting that can change colors. He also talked with Mark from Turn One Graphics who will also provide a quote. Tony will be asking Town Council to appropriate funds for this. Roger said a warrant article would be required to pay for this. Roger suggested if we are asking for lighting, it makes sense to also ask for funding for snow removal on the bridge, and sealing the wood on the bridge. Mary Ann Wells and others have continued to work on fundraising efforts in preparing for next year's Light Up the Village event. Tony asked Roger to work with the Chief of Police to come up with a road closure plan. There was discussion of which day is best to hold Light Up the Village and it was determined this is Friday, due to it being a night with fewer events and it kicks off the weekend. This year the Commission needs to coordinate with Bob Schroeder to communicate about the tree lighting. Tony would like to have the tree lighting be a part of a ceremony when Tony can speak about what the event is and its purpose to revitalize the village neighborhood.

Lambert Park Historical Rededication Committee: Commission would like to rename the park to Lambert's Park at Hooksett Falls. Roger said this request needs to go before the Town Council. Roger will report back on the process. Parks and Rec will be installing a walkway to the pavilion with bricks that can be purchased as dedications. The unveiling of the historical marker signs is planned for May on Memorial Day, and the first event following may be a Dunk A Dad event sponsored by Rotary.

Demolition Permits Committee: **Tony made a motion to hold a public hearing for the purpose of amending the demolition application from 5 business days to 14 business days to determine if there is any historical or architectural significance as per 17.05 at the next meeting. John seconded. 5-0-0.**

New members and Alternates: Tony would like to amend the Commission's Bylaws to ensure members are active. He suggested a warning be giving to any member who misses three meetings. John suggested having them moved to being an alternate. **Tony made a motion to amend the Heritage Commission Bylaws to state that any member who misses three or more unexcused meetings in a one-year period is to be given the option to become an alternate member or to resign. If they are an alternate already, they shall resign. John seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.**

Tony moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24pm. Vickie seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.