

1 **HOOKSETT HERITAGE COMMISSION**

2 **Meeting Minutes**

3 **Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

4 **5:00PM**

5 **Hooksett Public Library – NH Room**

6 **31 Mt. St. Mary’s Way, Hooksett NH**

7
8 **Attendance:** Tony Lacasse, Chair; James Sullivan, Town Council Representative; Vicki
9 Desharnais, Alternate; Ruth Knowles, Head School Liaison; Stephanie (Hooksett Resident);
10 Dena Vaudrien (Hooksett Resident); Leann McLaughlin, Project Coordinator

11
12 Tony called the meeting to order at 5:03PM.

13
14 Tony mentioned that Robert Schroeder has not been paid yet for the Kathie Northrup Memorial
15 Bench. The September 19 minutes reflect that vote. Leann McLaughlin stated that Staff Support
16 needs to follow up on that. Leann will work on and let Jane know how to get invoices paid.

17
18 *Vicki Desharnais motioned to approve the September 19, 2023, minutes with amendments,*
19 *seconded by James Sullivan. Motion passed.*

20 *Amendments: “Tony mentioned that invoices from the Garden Club and the Charter Schools*
21 *will also go through the Heritage Commission Chair.” The Garden Club should say OLLI.*

22
23 Hooksett Heritage Commission Bylaws and Rules of Procedures were discussed. The entire
24 Commission has not seen them so Leann will make sure those are sent out for the Commission to
25 review, make edits for the next meeting, and hopefully adopt them at the next meeting.

26
27 Demolition Regulations were discussed. The amendment the Commission would like to make is
28 relative to deciding within 5 business days of receipt of the demolition application. The
29 Commission would like to amend that to 10 business days. Leann will send out the full
30 Demolition Regulations to the Commission for complete review and the Commission can make a
31 motion to move it to the Planning Board for the appropriate amendments.

32
33 Tony updated the Commission that Leslie Madison has submitted her resignation.

34
35 New Members were discussed. Stephanie is interested in becoming a member as she grew up in
36 Hooksett and has a lot of interest in the History.

37 Dena has lived here since 1994 and would like to see more character and charm brought to the
38 town. She would also like more attention drawn to the forgotten historical locations in town such
39 as the Rowes Corner/Chester Turnpike area.

40
41 Vicki and Jim provided an update on meetings with residents about the Hooksett History Book.
42 They met with 7 people to gain input. Vicki interviewed Roger Hebert and he had a lot to talk
43 about including the 1972 Sesquicentennial celebration. The council did approve the author,

44 Melissa Moore. Leann recommended that the Author is involved in all aspects of these meetings
45 with residents as part of what is being paid for is her research. Leann also recommended asking
46 the author to attend the next Heritage Commission meeting to discuss all aspects. Leann will also
47 send the contract over to legal, Administration and then send it to the Commission for review.
48 Leslie put together an outline of what was expected of the author for the Town Council. Leann
49 will send that out to the Commission.

50
51 Leann discussed the Old Town Hall and recommended that the Heritage Commission remove
52 that from their list of projects. The reason for this is there is a committee (Town Hall
53 Preservation Committee) dedicated to this project. The staff is heavily involved as well.

54
55 Jim provided an update on the Historical Society and the Library digitization project. They did
56 receive a large donation as well.

57
58 Heads School Checking Account update provided by Ruth Knowles. They would like the Heads
59 School to be under the purview of the Heritage Commission, this includes funding. They would
60 like to transfer the funds from Heads School to the Heritage Commission. Leann will have to
61 look into how to do so. Additionally, Ruth would need invoices for the schools for donations.
62 Leann let her know that Jane can create a simple invoice that can be utilized when needed. In
63 May, Osha School for Lifelong Learning, the 4th Grade class, and a Charter School attend Heads
64 School for a program. During that time, they also order a portapotty so the Heritage Commission
65 would fund that through the Heads School funds. The school House is closed from November
66 through April. There are 3 mannequins that they would like the library to store due to the mice at
67 the Heads School.

68
69 Tony stated that the Light up the Village subcommittee has been meeting every 2 weeks since
70 September at the Church at 5 Veterans Drive. Their next meeting is Thursday, October 26 at
71 6pm. There will be donations in the mailbox at the Town Hall, Leann will gather those. Leann
72 had questions about the Light up the Village Event. Leann confirmed that DPW, PD and FD are
73 aware of the event and provided input. Tony mentioned that the only snag was with the FD, and
74 they can't have fireworks. Leann recommended that the chair reach out to HVWP and Sewer to
75 offer money to offset the electrical usage for the lights. Leann requested that Tony put her in
76 touch with Britney, who is coordinating the craft vendors. Leann recommended that Tony reach
77 out to the PD and FD regarding food truck vendors to ask what a good location would be for
78 them. They will have to be out of the way for emergency personnel. Additionally, tours of the
79 Old Town Hall were mentioned. Leann was hesitant about that because it is a construction zone
80 but will speak with André about that. The Heritage Commission would also like to sell Afghan
81 blankets at the Light up the Village Event. Leann found boxes of the blankets.

82
83 Jim Sullivan would like to research having the last Indian mural restored. The Heritage
84 Commission agreed to that.

85
86 Tony Lacasse motioned to adjourn; Jim Sullivan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:19pm.