

Hooksett Heritage Commission
Tuesday, November 28, 2023
5:00PM
Hooksett Public Library, Village Depot Meeting Room
31 Mt. St. Mary's Way Hooksett, NH 03106

Commission Members: Tony Lacasse (Chair) James Sullivan (Town Council Representative), Dena Vaudrien (Member), Stephanie Perry (Member), Vickie Desharnais (Alternate), Jane Martina (Heritage Commission Staff Support)

Members of the Public: Abby Milonas (Community member), Melissa Moore (Independent Contractor), Bob Thinnes (Historical Society), Barbara Thinnes (Hooksett Resident)

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

Minutes:

Tony presented two proposed corrections to the October 24, 2023 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes: altering "Garden Club" to "Head School" and modifying the Amendments deadline from 5 days to 10 days. **Jim Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Vickie Desharnais. The motion passed 4-0-0.**

Tony presented one proposed correction to the November 15, 2023 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes: altering Thomas Hardy to Charles Hardy. **Jim Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Vickie Desharnais. The motion passed 4-0-0.**

Invoices:

Tony made a motion to reimburse Mr. Schroder in the amount of \$219.95 for the memorial plaque for Kathie Northrup's Memorial Bench. The motion was seconded by Jim Sullivan. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Tony made a motion to reimburse the Hooksett Public Library in the amount of \$110.00 for the cost of printing 550 Light up the Village Programs. The motion was seconded by Jim Sullivan. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Tony made a motion to reimburse Tony Lacasse in the amount of \$885.00 for the cost of the trees for the Festival of Trees at Light up the Village. The motion was seconded by Jim Sullivan. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Demo Application: Tony Lacasse reported that the November 27th public hearing for 12 Cate Road went well. The Heritage Commission extended their thanks to Abby Milonas for her research and presentation at the Public Hearing. The Heritage Commission has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, November 30th at 3:30 PM in the Hooksett Town Hall's Council Chambers

to discuss alternatives with the applicant. Tony Lacasse informed the Heritage Commission that the proposed alternatives entail the applicant's financial responsibility for a historical marker on the property, in addition to funding the cemetery's maintenance. Seeking clarification, Bob Thinnes inquired about the specific property under discussion. Tony Lacasse clarified that the property in question is 12 Cate Road in Hooksett, NH. Bob Thinnes asked for the year that the house was built. Jim Sullivan informed him that the house was constructed in 1790, belonged to Judge Cate, and has a private cemetery with eight stones. Bob Thinnes asked if the house would be demolished. Vickie Desharnais confirmed that the demolition of the property will move forward. Bob Thinnes asked if a demolition date had been set. Tony Lacasse responded that the demolition has not yet been scheduled and that the timing will be determined based on the alternatives to be discussed at the meeting on Thursday, November 30th. The Heritage Commission proceeded to discuss the forthcoming meeting on Thursday, November 30th. Jim Sullivan mentioned that Elizabeth Robidoux recommended that the Heritage Commission document their proposed alternatives and have both parties sign-off on the agreed-upon alternatives. Considering Mike Horne's expertise in cemetery matters, the suggestion was made to invite him to the meeting. Tony Lacasse also suggested that, in addition to the proposed alternatives, the Heritage Commission could consider installing two granite benches on the property next to the cemetery to create a park area. Dena Vaudrien proposed that the Heritage Commission should conduct research on the individuals interred in the cemetery, as this information could be valuable for the proposed historical marker.

Hooksett History Book – Independent Contractor Agreement: The Hooksett Heritage Commission extended a warm welcome to Melissa More, a 40-year Loudon, NH resident and freelance writer. She recently completed the Loudon Town History Book. Melissa Moore informed the Heritage Commission that she had been collaborating with Leann McLaughlin to finalize the Independent Contractor Agreement. The Heritage Commission and Melissa Moore engaged in a discussion of the Agreement, addressing pertinent questions. Tony Lacasse inquired about the specific deadlines for the book project, particularly whether the book would be printed or ready for submission to the publisher by June 30, 2026. Melissa Moore clarified that the Additional Tasks and Deadlines in the Independent Contractor Agreement specifies that the book must be completed by June 30, 2026. Melissa Moore inquired about the possibility of extending or modifying the deadline for task 4K of the independent contractor agreement due to its proximity to the Holiday Season. Jane Martina responded that she will contact Leann McLaughlin to obtain an answer to her question. Melissa Moore inquired about the year in which Hooksett transitioned to an SB2 town. Jim Sullivan indicated that he would verify the precise year but estimated that it occurred around 1992. Melissa Moore then provided an overview of her preliminary research on Hooksett's history. She has examined Mr. Hardy's History Book and the Hooksett Town Reports. To address the lingering questions surrounding the Independent Contractor Agreement, Tony Lacasse suggested allowing an additional two weeks for thorough review. The Independent Contractor Agreement will be

reexamined at the upcoming Heritage Commission Meeting, taking place on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 5 PM at the Hooksett Public Library. Melissa Moore plans to attend the meeting.

Hooksett Heritage Commission Bylaws: Tony Lacasse proposed that the Heritage Commission discuss this topic at their next meeting.

Demolition Regulations: Following a discussion of the proposed changes to the demolition regulation, **Tony Lacasse made a motion to approve the proposed amendment; “Make a decision within 10 business days of receipt of the demolition application as to whether the building might be of historical or architectural significance. The Chair of the Committee, or designee, shall conduct an initial review utilizing the Demolition Regulation – Criteria for Finding Significance to determine potential significance.”** The motion was seconded by Stephanie Perry. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Tony Lacasse motioned to adjourn the meeting; Jim Sullivan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.