

Hampton Heritage Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes 4/21/2022

Call to order 5:34 P.M.

Salute to flag was conducted by Chairman Jim Metcalf.

Members Present:

Jim Metcalf

Ann Carnaby

Christine Bushway

Erica DeVries

Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Hampton Town Hall. No members of the public were present at the meeting. New Commissioner Chuck Rage (the new Board of Selectmen's representative replacing Commissioner Barnes) was not present. Commissioner DeVries (previously an alternate) has now been appointed a commissioner replacing Commissioner Wrobel who did not elect to remain a commissioner at the end of his term in March.

Election of Officers

Chairman Metcalf noted that New Business included the selection of officers for the year 2022-23. Since the previous year's secretary Commissioner Wrobel was no longer on the Commission, there was no recording secretary present. Accordingly, Chairman Metcalf brought forward the selection of officers.

Commissioner DeVries nominated Commissioner Carnaby for the Chair. Commissioner Bushway seconded. The vote for Commissioner Carnaby was unanimous.

Commissioner Metcalf nominated Commissioner Bushway as Vice-Chair. Chairwoman Carnaby seconded. The vote for Vice-Chair Bushway was unanimous.

Chairwoman Carnaby nominated Commissioner Metcalf as Secretary. Commissioner Bushway seconded. The vote for Secretary Metcalf was unanimous.

Commissioner Participation in Absentia

Chairwoman Carnaby questioned the next agenda item regarding participation of commissioners not in attendance. After discussion the following was moved by Commissioner DeVries with second by Commissioner Bushway:

1. The Commission shall permit one commissioner to participate in absentia by phone.
2. A renewing vote shall be taken with a quorum present should a commissioner make such a request of the Chair in advance. The absent commissioner will then be permitted to join the meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of March 3, 2022 Minutes

Commissioner Metcalf moved that the minutes be accepted. Commissioner Bushway seconded. The vote to accept was 3-0-1 with Commissioner DeVries abstaining.

Correspondence

Commissioner Metcalf noted that there was only one piece of correspondence received which consisted of a NHDOT apology for not having furnished the Commission with a copy of the Hampton Harbor Bridge replacement Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in a timely fashion. The Commission had no action arising from the agreement and did not have to sign. Commissioner Metcalf pointed out that there is reference within the MOA to the Heritage Commission having a role in the interpretive signage for the bridge (discussed further under “kiosks” below).

Meeting Plans

There was a discussion of meeting date, time, and location. Commissioner Metcalf moved that the meetings be held on the first Thursday of each month (unless otherwise changed by the Commission) at 7 PM in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Bushway. The vote was unanimous.

General Discussions

There was a discussion of the powers and responsibilities of the Commission. There was also a discussion of adding new commissioners and alternates in order to be able to do more. No votes were taken.

Projects

1. Historic House Marker Project update

The discussion included the status of a refund for an order received by the deceased vendor Robert Leonard which was not filled. There was also a discussion of alternate vendors, one recommended by the family of Mr. Leonard (located in New Jersey) and also the potential for a more local vendor. The Chair requested Commissioner Metcalf to continue to head up this project and he agreed. No votes were taken.

2. Blacksmith Shop preservation

The discussion included previous warrant articles and estimates to at least stabilize the structure. Commissioner Metcalf noted that Public Works had provided him some information regarding the availability of contractors experienced in historical preservation. The Chair noted the availability of a woman in Hampton with great knowledge of blacksmiths that had worked within the town. Commissioner DeVries volunteered to head up this project. No votes were taken.

Hampton Historical Society (HHS) Interpretive Sign Kiosk update

Commissioner Metcalf chairs an *ad hoc* committee of the HHS that is in the process of acquiring two interpretive sign kiosks for the HHS Tuck Museum property (with more to follow). There is a potential for similar signage for the Grist Mill since funds contributed by the public for the Grist Mill are available (Board of Selectmen would have to approve). Moreover, the NHDOT has stipulated in the Hampton Harbor Bridge MOA that if an interpretive sign template is defined by the Town of Hampton, they would

take that into consideration when creating the kiosks associated with the bridge history to be displayed on state property near the bridge. The Chair has requested that the interpretive sign kiosk effort be treated as a project. Commission Metcalf will head that project up.

Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, it was noted that two of the five commissioners would not be available for the next planned meeting on May 5, 2022. Accordingly, by consensus the Chair designated May 12, 2022 for the next meeting at the agreed-upon time and place.

Commissioner Bushway motioned for adjournment at 6:27 PM. Commissioner Metcalf seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0-0 to adjourn.