

## Hampton Heritage Commission

### Meeting Minutes 11/5/2020

The Chairman of the Hampton Heritage Commission determined that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, that to properly ensure the safety of the public and that of several of the Board members who are within the CDC guidelines needing to take special precautions, this public body was authorized to meet electronically. Please note there was no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, the Chairman confirmed: We were utilizing a teleconference service for the electronic Meeting. All members of the Board had the ability to communicate contemporaneously during the meeting through the proposed platform, and the public could join the electronic meeting by calling toll free 1-857-444-0744 and use the code 156034. If anybody had a problem, they could call 603-929-5812.

Call to order 6: 00 P.M.

Virtual salute to flag was conducted by Jim Metcalf.

Members Present:

Ann Carnaby (at home alone)

Christine Bushway (at home alone)

Jim Metcalf (at home alone)

John Wrobel (at home alone)

Gary Patton (at home alone)

Jim Metcalf opened the meeting inquiring if there were any members of the public on the line. No public citizens were present at the electronic meeting.

Ms. Jennifer Hale, Hampton DPW, was on the phone to discuss comments on the DPW Blacksmith Shop engineering report.

Approval of meeting minutes for 3 September 2020. Motion for approval by Ann Carnaby and Christine Bushway seconds the motion. 5-0 approval.

Correspondence

Jim Metcalf indicated that there were no new correspondences for the Commission's attention.

Old Business

Historic Building Markers Project. Jim Metcalf reported that there was no news to report regarding the program since the Commission's last meeting and update. Ann Carnaby and Jim Metcalf discussed updates for the Historic Marker Program application form. Ann Carnaby will follow up with the sign making vendor on the color of the pine tree on the sign, as previous editions had the tree painted green

and the most recent edition had the tree painted black. The question regarding the color had been discussed at a previous meeting for possible follow-up.

Public Works Report on Blacksmith Shop. Ms. Hale, DPW Hampton, discussed and answered various questions regarding the DPW engineering report on the Blacksmith Shop. Ms. Hale explained the process on how the engineering firm was selected to do the report, which was in accordance with normal DPW procurement procedures. The company selected had past successful experiences in conducting engineering studies of historical buildings. She further described the \$2000 effort conducted to remove floor boards in order to inspect the foundation. Subsequent to the foundation inspection, an estimate of \$57,000 was obtained to make the foundation whole again. The estimate received exceeded the current budgeted amount of \$20,000. The time the proposal was received was March 2020 and the current ongoing COVID emergency measures precluded spending on the project due to a Hampton “no spend rule.” Ms. Hale further described various internal DPW discussions relative to less expensive options for the foundation repairs. In response to Jim Metcalf’s question on whether the funds would be restored for Blacksmith Shop use after the COVID emergency, Ms. Hale indicated that the funds were provided as a result of a 2018 warrant article which indicated that the funds would be spent by March 2020. Due to current circumstances, the \$20,000 is no longer available and funds are lapsed. There was some additional discussion by Commission members concerning follow up warrant articles for funds for foundation work at the Blacksmith Shop. Jim Metcalf will provide Ms. Hale with a point of contact he has had discussions with regarding grants and applications to provide for funds that could be applied to the Blacksmith Shop.

Gary Patton, who had attended the deliberative session when the warrant article was proposed, questioned the origin of the warrant article. Ms. Hale was not involved during that time nor were any of the current commission members so the question was left unanswered, though Ann Carnaby suggested that background information could be contained in the files of the former Hampton Heritage Commission.

Ann Carnaby then posed the question to Ms. Hale on suggestions on how the Commission can work with the DPW. Ms. Hale appreciated the question and outlined various avenues of support to include: coordination, facilitation, repairs to the Blacksmith Shop but not necessarily historical content, i.e., fix/replace roof but not in a historical manner, develop proposals for engineering studies, grant writing, program management, and proposal preparation. Having answered the Commission questions regarding the Blacksmith Shop, Ms. Hale left the meeting.

East End School House Park Girl Scout Project. Rene Boudreau (Town Recreation Director) provided an update on this project. He met with the Girl Scout troop and shared with the Commission that the Girl Scout troop had determined that the State Historical Marker project was beyond the scope of their efforts, especially with regard to the costs involved in obtaining a state historical marker. The Girl Scout Troop is now considering a 20” by 18” sign of commemoration that would require Board of Selectmen approval for erection. Jim Metcalf proposed that there is a possible synergy between the project and a recent Hampton Historical Society initiative to develop Hampton Historical kiosks of uniform appearance throughout the town.

Photo-documentation of Historic Structures Prior to Demolition. Jim Metcalf indicated that the Hampton Historical Society is satisfied with maintaining their role of conducting photo-documentation of historic structures prior to demolition.

General Moulton House. Jim Metcalf reported the following update. The Hampton Historical Society and Historic New England (previously the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities) have deed restrictions regarding the viewshed from the General Moulton House, which prohibits interference with the viewshed from the Moulton House and Lafayette Road.

Rules of Procedure for Agenda and Meeting Minutes. Jim Metcalf provided Commission members with copies of these procedures for review and comment.

New Business

On 11/6/2020, Jim Metcalf and Chet Riley (NH barn expert) will meet to visually inspect an old barn on Mill Road along with the property owner and will report back his findings to the Commission.

Adjourning

Christine Bushway motioned for adjournment at 7:06 PM. Ann Carnaby seconds the motion. 5-0 to adjourn.