

RYE HERITAGE COMMISSION

**Thursday, June 6, 2019
6:30 p.m. – Rye Town Hall**

Present: Treasurer as Acting Chair Peter White, Gail Hughes, Alex Herlihy, Rich Davis, Alternate Phil Walsh

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Chair White called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and led the pledge of Allegiance.

I. Member Introduction

Phil Walsh was seated for Mae Bradshaw.

II. Approval February Minutes – May 2, 2019

The following correction was noted:

Present: Chair Beverly Giblin, Peter White, Mae Bradshaw, ~~Richard Davis~~, Gail Hughes, Alex Herlihy, Selectmen's Rep Bill Epperson, Rich Davis, Alternate Elizabeth Sanborn. Listed twice in error.

Motion by Alex Herlihy to approve the meeting minutes of May 2, 2019, as amended. Seconded by Phil Walsh. All in Favor.

III. Demolition Committee – David Choate & Alex Herlihy

Member Herlihy stated that there are no updates at this time.

IV. Treasurer Report, Funding and Billing - Peter White

Treasurer Peter White reported as of May 31, 2019; the commission has \$26,711.32 with another check for \$20.00 that needs to be deposited. He reminded the commission that \$15,000 will be used to contribute to the Town Hall window project. He pointed out that the commission's budget has 58% remaining for the year which is right on track. He reminded the members that the annual mailing went out early this year.

Motion by Rich Davis to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Second by Gail Hughes. All in Favor.

V. Grant Application - Phil Walsh

Member Walsh reported that all the required materials have been submitted to Mr. Magnant and Janice Ireland to be submitted to the Selectmen.

From June 10th through the 24th, the Selectmen will be reviewing the application and materials, hopefully for their approval at the Selectmen's meeting of the 24th. The submission deadline is June 28th. There will be subsequent information required and a site walk sometime early fall. In terms of receiving the grant award, the commission will not know until sometime in December.

Member Walsh explained that at this point, it is just a matter of fine tuning and review and getting it into the hands of the LCHIP committee. The only thing that has not been included in the materials is the estimates for the project. Member Hughes is prepared to submit a copy.

VI. Windows - Gail Hughes

Member Hughes reported that she has two estimates for the Town Hall window project as follows:

- Portland Glass
 - Coastal Manufacturer
 - 8,000 Series
 - Low E rating
 - 20 Year Warranty
 - \$14,000 installed
- Granite State Glass
 - Harvey Manufacturer
 - Not Low E rating
 - 10 Year Warranty
 - \$11,760 installed

Member Hughes recommended working with Portland Glass as they were more interested in the project and comprehensive in the materials they provided with their quote.

Member Hughes recommended that considering the pricing that has been received and with construction material prices increasing daily, the commission would be well advised to move forward on making a decision on the storm windows.

Acting Chair White stated that he appreciated Member Hughes commentary. He asked Member Walsh how important the storm windows are to the grant application.

Member Walsh explained that LCHIP requires documentation on costs and potential expenses. This grant is based entirely on the windows. The primary focus of the grant would be directed to the refurbishing, restoration and repairs of the interior wooden windows.

Acting Chair White clarified that the commission could move ahead on the storm window replacement and still get the grant for the interior monumental windows.

Member Walsh confirmed.

The members agreed to wait on a vote of this matter until there is a full complement of the commission present.

VII. Graveyard Projects

Member Herlihy suggested that the commission get a volunteer to do an inventory of the 60+/- graveyard sites in town. In the case where there is no documented caregiver, they could try to find out who is caring for the site and document it. If there is no caretaker, the commission needs to find volunteers that will help. An “Adopt a Graveyard” program would be a great idea.

Member Herlihy also recommended that the Historic District Commission and the Heritage Commission get together with some volunteers and the cemetery superintendent to do a walking tour at the Central Cemetery. After which, research could be done on selective founding family plots that are identified. This information should be used to prepare an informational walking tour on a Saturday in October of each year.

Member Herlihy expressed how unique, educational and fun the tour could be. Having it around Halloween would add to the fun.

VIII. Goss Farm Event

Acting Chair White announced that the Goss farm event will be held Sunday, September 22nd from 11:00 to 3:00. There will be a bar-b-que and lots of activities.

Member Herlihy stated that this event is to celebrate the Goss Farm. He will be putting out a display of historical information. He reported that the issue with using the barn is the fire code, so there cannot be a public event held inside the barn. However, there can be small (maybe 20 people or less), quick tours to see the interior of the barn.

IX. Old Business

The commission talked about the need to have a selectmen's rep assigned to the Heritage Commission. Selectman Epperson was assigned but has a conflict with another commitment the first Thursday of each month. Selectman Roman has been assigned to another Board.

Acting Chair White stated that the commission will go back to the select board to thank Selectman Epperson and the board for all their help and support. They will also ask if Selectman Epperson is the right person for the commission or if someone else could step in.

Member Herlihy reported the he was assigned the task of inspecting and reviewing the condition of the gutters and downspouts on the Town Hall. He held a meeting with the painter, (JG Painting), Mr. Magnant and Dennis McCarthy. The current gutters are not large enough to support the volume of the roof, plus there are a lot of missing and damaged downspouts. The gutters need to be replaced with larger commercial grade gutters. Mr. Magnant is working on getting out an RFP for estimates.

X. New Business

Member Herlihy reported that there were several topics and recommendations that came out of the Plan NH project as follows:

- Washington, Wallis and Central Road intersection – Make it a “T” and diverting Wallis Road over to Central Road.
- Recommendations were made for the bank property.
- Signage recommendations were made.
- Connect Rye Junior High to the Town Hall with sidewalks.
- The two blue crosswalks could be raised slightly and made out of a different material, such as cobblestones, to slow traffic.
- Narrow Washington Road.
- Narrow the circular drive at the church and expand the sidewalks through the church property to the Town Hall.
- Make the entrance to Parsons Field wider and more inviting.
- Move the Founder's Boulder out further away from Washington Road and place a couple of benches on each side, in order to make it more visible to the public.

- Make the Parsonage land the main entrance to the Library. Use the Parsonage as a town facility and have a café in the small cement building.
- Addition on the Town Hall or build a separate building for administrative offices.

Member Herlihy explained that he brought this up to the commission because he feels that this is all directly related to the Town's Heritage and something the commission needs to weigh in on at the future work sessions.

Acting Chair White pointed out that this is a topic that the Heritage Commission should review. If the commission has concerns then there is a need to respond to the findings.

XI. Next Meeting: July 11, 2019

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Rich Davis to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Seconded by Gail Hughes. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger