

RYE HERITAGE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 3, 2022
5:30 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Chair Bev Giblin, Vice-Chair Gail Hughes, Treasurer Peter White, Alex Herlihy, and Alternate Elizabeth Sanborn

I. Call to Order

The Commission met at the gazebo site behind the Town Hall and Chair Giblin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Commission looked at various locations to put the gazebo. *(Follow-up discussion about the gazebo sight discussed later in the meeting.)*

II. Seating of Alternates

Chair Giblin seated Alternate Elizabeth Sanborn for the meeting.

III. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

- **October 6, 2022**

Motion by Peter White to approve the October 6, 2022 meeting minutes. Seconded by Elizabeth Sanborn. All in favor.

IV. Business

- **Treasurer's Report &**
- **2023 Budget**

Treasurer White noted that he met with the Select Board earlier in the day to present the proposed Heritage Commission Budget for 2023. He was unable to get the expense report for the Commission from the Select Board's Secretary for the month of October, as they were busy with the all day budget work session. There was very little change in expenditures over the last month. He will have the new numbers for the December meeting. He continued that the Select Board approve the proposed 2023 budget for \$4,800 as submitted.

- **Sign Project Fundraiser**

Treasurer White reported that they are in the process of finishing the mailer for the signs that are going up in 2023. The mailer will be going out after the upcoming election on November 8th. A total of 3,000 flyers are being sent out to the community. There are two invoices associated with the mailer. One invoice is for the printing of the mailer in the amount of \$340.75 to Allegra Printing. The other invoice is for the mailing of the mailer which is a cost of .20 per mailer totaling \$600. Both of these expenses are in the 2022 budget and are below what was budgeted.

Motion by Peter White to approve the invoice in the amount of \$340.75 to Allegra Printing for printing 3,000 of the annual tri-fold appeal. Seconded by Alex Herlihy. All in favor.

Motion by Peter White to approve the \$600 disbursement to the United States Postal Service for mailing the tri-fold appeal. Seconded by Elizabeth Sanborn. All in favor.

There was discussion in regards to the misspelling of Gail Hughes' name on the tri-fold mailer. Vice-Chair Hughes asked that the spelling be corrected and new mailers printed. Treasurer Peter White apologized for the oversight and took responsibility for the proofing. He offered to personally pay for the additional printing to correct the mistake.

The Commission had a discussion on how to handle the reprinting.

**Motion by Alex Herlihy that the Heritage Commission pay the \$340.75 for the reprinting of the mailers with the spelling of the name corrected. Seconded by Bev Giblin.
Vote: 4-1 Opposed: Peter White**

- **Demolition Review Committee**

Alternate Sanborn reported that the house at 28 Pine Street is coming down. The Demolition Review Committee did not have any issues with the proposal. There were no other cases before the Committee over the past month.

- **Graveyard Adoptions**

Chair Giblin noted that she received a message from Mae Bradshaw about someone who wanted to adopt a graveyard. Mae had pulled the name out of some old reports of the Commission. Chair Giblin pointed out that she contacted the people. They are interested in doing it at some point; however, not right at this time. The gentleman may also be willing to sit on the Heritage Commission in the future.

Member Herlihy commented that this is an example of what the Commission does not have the bandwidth to handle. The Commission has a lot of things to do. There's a list of the sixty plus graveyards which Phil Walsh had consolidated with the address and the name of the person who has agreed to adopt it. The Heritage Commission needs to do some publicity to try to get more people to adopt a graveyard. They also need someone who is willing to volunteer to keep this information organized. It's not something the Commission can do in a meeting. It's the kind of work that has to be done in between meetings.

Chair Giblin agreed this is a valid point. She suggested that the Commission address this issue in the spring.

- **Gazebo**

Chair Giblin noted that the Commission met at 5:30 outside Town Hall to look at various locations to site the gazebo. The Commission all agreed on two potential sites. She asked if there is a decision on one or the other.

Member Herlihy commented there was some difference of opinions with the five people who were at the site walk. He suggested that the rest of the Commission go out to look and get

involved with the decision. Once the Commission comes up with consensus for the location, the Select Board will then need to agree with the site. He noted that one site is staked out in the ninety degree angle area and the other is to the right of where it is now.

Chair Giblin stated there are pros and cons to the two sites that were reviewed by the Commission. The rest of the Commission will need to look at the sites to voice their opinion. She asked if next month's meeting will be too late.

Treasurer White pointed out that the contractor is getting close to being able to work on the gazebo.

Chair Giblin agreed to call Member David Choate and the Commission's Selectmen's Rep Bill Epperson to speak with them about the locations.

Motion by Bev Giblin to choose the site that is staked out right now for the gazebo.

Seconded by Peter White.

Vote: 3-1-1 Opposed: Elizabeth Sanborn Abstained: Gail Hughes

Alternate Sanborn stated that one of the key things is the engineering and leveling the space. No one really knows the cost. In her opinion, it would be less expensive to have the gazebo where it is because there's existing pathways.

Chair Giblin pointed out that the other two members may hate the location and it will have to be brought back to the Commission for another vote.

V. New Business

The Commission discussed possible nominees for the Annual Louise Tallman Award. A motion for a nominee was made by Alex Herlihy and seconded by Elizabeth Sanborn which was voted all in favor.

- **December Meeting Holiday Celebration**

There was discussion about holding the December meeting at the Rye Town Museum for a holiday celebration. It was agreed that the Rye Historical Society and the Historic District Commission should be invited to attend the holiday meeting, as they are all devoted to protecting the Historic District. Member Herlihy will ask the Rye Historical Society President permission to use the museum for the function. The date for the holiday celebration is December 1st from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Alex Herlihy to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. Seconded by Peter White. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger