

HERITAGE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2017

The Heritage Commission held its regular monthly meeting at City Hall, 41 Green Street, Concord, New Hampshire, on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

Chairman Donovan called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Chair Phil Donovan, Vice-Chair Frederick Richards, members Rich Woodfin, Bryant Tolles, Jr., Richard Jaques, and Robert Johnson. Planning Division Administrative Specialist Lisa Fellows-Weaver was also in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 1, 2017

Mr. Jaques moved to approve the June 1, 2017 minutes, as written. Mr. Tolles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business

a. Northern Pass Impacts on Maple View Farm

Members reviewed the materials provided from DHR showing the potential impacts that Northern Pass will have to the Maple View Farm. No action was taken.

4. Demolition Review Committee - Report

Mr. Richards provided an overview of two items from the Demolition Review Committee. He stated that one house is being proposed to be demolished on Pearl Street for the purpose of construction of a parking lot. Mr. Johnson stated that the house is from the 1880's and he commented that to demolish this older double ended 2 ½ story brick building would be unfortunate; it is in a residential area now and the addition of a parking lot will not enhance the area and could affect the area negatively.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities of the Demolition Committee. Members agreed that the exterior and interior of the house should be photographed. If the photos indicate that the structure is significant in terms of architectural features, then the DRC should contact the Iqra Islamic Society of Greater Concord to discuss alternatives.

Ms. Weaver stated that the Society was granted a number of variances at the August Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting relative to the use of the Church and the current Capital Offset building at 181 N. Main Street.

Mr. Richards offered to follow up with the Iqra Islamic Society of Greater Concord relative to the demolition of the Pearl Street house and parking options for this site. On a motion made by Mr. Jaques, and seconded by Mr. Woodfin, the Commission agreed to authorize Mr. Richards to contact the Society for additional information on the demolition proposal.

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Mr. Richards also stated that a demolition permit request to demolish the property at 416 N. State St. has been received. He explained that the proposal is to leave the existing garage and demolish the shed. The Commission had no comments or concerns with this permit request.

There were no other activities of the Demolition Review Committee (DRC) over the past few months.

5. Follow up Items

a. Gas Holder National Register application update

The Commission received a letter from PAL indicating that the application was submitted and accepted by DHS. The submission will now go before the State Historic Resources Council in October. A discussion was held regarding if there is a plan for the outcome of the building as well as the function of the building in the future. The Commission agreed that there is now notoriety for the building, which may help in the future and that this should remain on the forefront for the Commission due to the significance of the building.

The Commission noted that the letter from PAL provided documentation to DHR and requested that the submission be provided to each member.

b. Concord Ortho rezoning request – formal memo from Heritage Commission

Mr. Woodfin recused himself from this discussion.

Mr. Donovan explained that various commissions/committees were asked to provide comments to Heather Shank, regarding the rezoning proposal from Concord Orthopaedics, which would be submitted to the Planning Board. He stated that Heritage Commission discussed and provided comments through the meeting minutes, which were included within Ms. Shank's staff report. Mr. Johnson noted that other committees/commissions provided a formal letter on letterhead to the Planning Board and he has requested that the Heritage Commission provide the Planning Board with a stand-alone document, signed by the Chairman, and it not to be just a part of the report.

On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, and seconded by Mr. Jaques, the Commission agreed to send a formal letter to the Planning Board using the original wording from the April 6, 2017 meeting minutes, relative to the rezoning of Pleasant Street per the request of Concord Orthopaedics, and the letter is signed by the chairman. The motion passed, 5/0/1. Mr. Woodfin abstained.

Mr. Woodfin returned to the Commission as a voting member at 5:33 p.m.

c. Inventory of Historic Granite Markers – Follow Up

Mr. Donovan stated that he has been able to take some photos of markers and is still making progress with the inventory.

d. Social Media –Follow up

Mr. Woodfin updated the Commission as to the progress with creating a Flickr account. He explained that although there are limitations in the City, he is working on a social media proposal

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and will present the proposal to the Commission. He added that it is his intent to get the exposure to the public.

6. Review of Correspondence

All correspondence was distributed and reviewed. No actions were required.

7. Any other business to come before the Commission

a. Demolition Codes for Projects

A discussion was held regarding the Demolition Committees' codes and the current progress of the amendments. This item was added to next month's agenda. Members requested the most recent draft be provided to them as soon as possible for review.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the commission, on a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Richards, Chairman Donovan adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Fellows-Weaver
Administrative Specialist