

FREEDOM HERITAGE COMMISSION

Minutes April 13, 2023

Present: Alan Fall (Chair), Brandy Buttrick (Vice-Chair), Karrie Buttrick (Secretary), Sue Hoople (M), Mark McKinley (M), Scott Cunningham (M), Ernie Day (BOS Rep)

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm in the Town Hall.

The minutes of September 8, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Ernie made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Brandy. All were in favor.

New Business: Election of new officers: It was discussed and the current officers agreed to keep their positions. Mark made a motion to keep the current officers and it was seconded by Sue. All were in favor.

Unfinished Business:

Snow Roller Update: Ernie stated the trees for the frame for the snow roller renovation project were cut down from the Acton property and brought to the Jason Ferry property last winter. It was unknown if Jason has had the time to cut the wood for the frame. Brandy mentioned, as Co-President of the Freedom Historical Society (FHS), that they are getting inquiries regarding the status of the snow roller. It was decided that Alan, Scott and Brandy would meet in the near future to review the current status of the snow roller refurbishment and this information could be shared with the public in the next FHS newsletter in May. Brandy raised an issue with the Roller Shed. He asked if it had been decided where the snow roller would be built, suggesting that the Roller Shed might be a perfect location once it is cleared out of items that were being stored by the Town. Brandy also reminded everyone that the original plan was that the refurbished snow roller would be displayed as a museum piece for visitors in the roller shed. Brandy said that he could find volunteers who would help clean the shed out. Alan suggested that the Freedom Historical Society work with the Town Selectmen to allow the Freedom Historical Society to utilize the Roller Shed. This would bring it more center stage to the public. Ernie said that he would raise this with the other selectmen.

Town Office Advisory Committee: Ernie mentioned the Town Office Advisory (TOA) Committee would be meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023. Alan asked about the recent warrant article to fund the cost of a new town office building. It was explained the TOA committee believed that it would be difficult for the Town to decide on one option to refurbish the current Town Office Building without an alternative plan. The cost of a new building would be that alternative plan.

Research Projects: Sue brought up the Albert Locke property, an acre on the Ossipee River that she has been researching. She found some information to be fascinating and had suggested that we should consider recreating the old Effingham Falls Iron Works. Alan explained that there was an Upper and Lower Falls and several businesses along the river. Sue asked if there had ever been an archaeological dig in that area. Alan said, no, but might be a good idea.

Sue asked Alan if he could send her any information on the property. Brandy mentioned that next year, the FHS planned on creating a joint exhibit with the Effingham Historical Society on the historic businesses along the river. Sue asked to be included on this project. Karrie mentioned that she was given the Hale Hern Homestead information that Lee Fritz had compiled and given to Peg Scully. Looking through the information, she believes that this a large project that would take some time to complete. Sue offered to help and Alan said that he has a lot of the research done and that he could share. Alan said he could help taking it back to the original lotting.

Other Business:

There was no additional business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

The next meeting of the Heritage Commission will be Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Karrie Buttrick, Secretary