

## **FREEDOM HERITAGE COMMISSION**

### **Minutes**

**June 13, 2024**

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

A quorum was established.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm at the Town Hall. The minutes of April 11, 2024, meeting and minutes from our meeting with New Hampshire Preservation Alliance on May 16, 2024 were reviewed. Brandy made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Mark. All were in favor.

### **Agenda:**

#### **Update on the Town Offices Renovation Project:**

Members of the Heritage Commission met with Andrew Cushing with the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance (NHPA) and Jason Earle, a local Preservation Construction consultant on May 16, 2024. The group toured the Town Office Building & the Masonic Building. After the tour, Andrew recommended that the Heritage Commission on behalf of the Town, submit a request for a 2024 Preservation Planning Grant through LCHIP which would help cover expenses associated with architectural, preservation consultant and engineering fees for both buildings. At this meeting, the Commission members reviewed and discussed the application for the Preservation Planning Grant in preparation for submission. Karrie said she would forward the application to Sue Hoople for her review and comments. The Heritage Commission plans to seek \$25,000 in LCHIP matching funds. The application is due by June 19, 2024. The committee plans to submit the application with “cost estimates” since an architect for the project has not yet been hired by the Town. If the initial application is accepted, the Commission has until the end of September 2024 to submit the accurate cost estimates in planning costs in order to be considered for any grant money.

Alan stated that Placeworks and Turpin are the only two architectural firms that have submitted their RFQs to the Town of Freedom. Beth Miller was extended an invitation to submit her RFQ but the Town had not yet heard back.

#### **Update on the Snow Roller:**

Brandy reported that Jason Earle donated two ash trees to the snow roller project to be used for the frame of the snow roller. Jason Earle also brought the cut trees to Jason Ferry for cutting into the frame's dimensions.

Brandy asked if the next step should be disassembling the snow roller in preparation for renovation. Brandy believes that he can get some volunteers together to help with the project, he just needs directions on how the restoration should move forward. Alan said that taking the snow roller apart would be the next step, and that the parts need to be carefully cataloged. The

committee also discussed the current condition inside the roller shed. There are still items that need to be cleared out of the shed and the condition of the floor in order to level it out needs to be addressed.

Alan asked Brandy to come up with a plan to address that roller shed and he will bring it up with the Selectmen. The Commission also discussed moving the slats from Scott Cunningham's property on Watson Hill, and place it in the roller shed in preparation for the renovation.

**Research Projects:**

During the visit with NHPA, Karrie asked Andrew Cushing if he thought that the Town may be able to place Lucy Kendall's house on the State Registry for Historic Places given its history with the Town of Freedom. Andrew shared his concerns about the alterations that had been made to the outside of the building, but it might be granted based on the social impact as related to the Town. Karrie said that she was going to continue to pursue this.

**Discuss recruiting new members:**

Karrie asked if it would be possible to promote seeking new membership on the Heritage Commission on the Town's website and the Freedom Bulletin Board. Promoting our mission to identify those structures and physical landmarks that are important to our town's past through research and deed study. In our past meetings, Sue has volunteer to continue support training in deed research.

**Other Business:**

Mark commented that he enjoyed the tour the Effingham Library and Grange Hall that Jason Earle gave the Heritage Commission members on June 6, 2024. Jason explained how the existing windows at the library and the Grange building are similar to the existing windows in the Town Office Building and how the windows could be refurbished and still meet the energy efficiency needed.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.