

Camden Historic Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 8, 2014, Washington Street Conference Room

Members Present: Chair-Meg Barclay; Beedy Parker, Pat Skaling

Alternates Present: Kris Mikkelsen, Susan Neves

Select Board Liaison: Don White

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Meg Barclay

Secretary's Report/Review of Minutes:

Minutes of March 11, 2014, were accepted with the following corrections: "Rosemary Glass" was corrected to "Rosalee Glass"; "Susan Sneed" was corrected to "Susan Snead"; and under "Other Historic Properties: Report on responses to RFP", the "project" referred to is a proposed project to identify and research possible properties that might be added to enlarge the existing National Register Historic Districts of Camden as recommended by the 2012 Downtown Master Plan.

Chair's Report:

Meg reported that Brian Hodges has placed her on the agenda for the upcoming Downtown Network Board meeting, which is Monday, April 14th at 3:30 p.m. in the Tucker Room of the Opera House. Meg will enlist the help of the DNB to collaborate with the Historic Resources Committee to explore the best ways to implement the portions of the 2012 Downtown Master Plan that relate to Camden's historic resources.

Select Board Liaison's Report:

Don White reported that the Budget Committee approved the request of the Historic Resources Committee in the amount of \$3000. The Select Board will review and vote on the Budget Committee's recommendations this week. (Thank you to Susan Snead for representing HRC at the Budget Committee hearing.)

HRC GOALS/OLD BUSINESS

Stewardship

Archives: no report

Village Green: no report. Don White expects that the decision for administering the revised Village Green policies will be decided in late June or early July.

Opera House: no report, but Don White, who is also liaison to the Opera House Committee, mentioned that potential upgrades to the 3rd floor of the Opera House will not be implemented in the near future due to lack of money. Apparently the Opera House Committee is regrouping.

On a positive note, the Opera House will be celebrating its 120th anniversary and plans year-long activities. Meg will ask Rosalee and Susan Snead to help with materials and photos from the archives for the Opera House Committee.

Education/Recognition

Curtis Light Museum:

Meg inquired the best way to invite the Select Board to the Open House planned for the museum space at the Curtis Island Light Tower. As suggested by Deedee Conover, the event will be low-key in order to protect the Island from a huge crowd. Perhaps the event could be a photo-op. Don suggested an invitation be sent through the town office.

Other Historic Properties:

The Committee discussed, if our \$3000. budget amount is approved by the Select Board, whether or not the selection of an historical researcher would have to be sent out for bid. Meg believes that Ann Morris would be available and interested, and since she is a respected researcher and a known entity, it would be expedient not to have to go to bid. Don thought the amount of money involved may not require going to bid. Meg will check with town office. The HRC may decide to identify the properties we might want researched and then go to the building owners to solicit their interest.

Pat Skaling brought the Portland Press Herald article of March 10, 2014, about the York River seeking designation by the National Park Service as a Wild and Scenic Partnership River. It appears from the article that the Megunticook River would not qualify for this designation because it has existing dams..Pat agreed to look further into a designation of another sort for which our river might qualify since it is culturally very historic. We also discussed how we might help the Pathways Committee (Jeff Scott, Chair) with their RiverWalk plans.

The RiverWalk discussion led into a somewhat rambling discussion of the twenty parks in town, the need for historic signage such as "Museum in the Streets" signage, signs for the historic districts, etc. Don suggested we we talk with Steve Wilson to see what we could do now that the sign ordinance was changed two years ago. We agreed to look at the current Camden Walking Tour brochure and at <http://www.themuseuminthestreets.com/> as background for future discussion.

Policy

Historic Preservation Ordinance:

Meg is on the agenda for Downtown Network Board meeting Monday, April 14, 2014, 3:30 p.m..

Other Camden Committees Policy/HRC Overlap Review

Mountain View Cemetery meets in April and HRC would like to have a discussion with them about how we could collaborate/support their committee. A decision was made to approach them at a later time since the HRC presently has a full agenda.

New Member Orientation:

Susan Neves and Pat Skaling agreed to review the New Member Orientation packet and suggest updates. They will ask Susan Snead to help with the update.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m..

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, May 13, 4:00 p.m. at Washington St. Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Skaling