

## Camden Historic Resources Committee

### Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 8, 2103 Washington Street Conference Room

**Members present:** Meg Barclay (Chair), Beedy Parker, Judy McGuirk, Pat Skaling

**Alternates present:** Abby Fitzgerald, Susan Snead

**Select Board Liaison:** Don White

**Camden Library Parks Director:** Dave Jackson

**Camden Garden Club Village Green Chair:** Lynn Snider

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

**Secretary's Report/Review of Minutes:** The minutes from the September 10, 2013, meeting were accepted as written.

**Select Board Liaison Report:** Don White reported the Select Board is meeting this week with the Rockport Select Board to discuss the John Street/Elm Street/Camden Street/Conway Road intersection noting that reengineering the intersection could be a long term project.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Archives: no report. A suggestion was made and will be conveyed to Dee Dee Conover that perhaps an opening ceremony/photo op? might be planned for next summer's opening of the Curtis Island Light Tower to highlight the new archival photo cases and display.

Village Green: Lynn Snider's October 8, 2013, report is attached. It was noted that Judith Tarbox is the current President of the Camden Garden Club.

Harbor Park: Dave Jackson stated that he will send reports directly to Janice Esancy for distribution to HRC in the future. (You should have received his October 11, 2013, report from Janice on 10/11/13 so it will not be attached to these minutes.)

Dave mentioned that the south wall in the top tier of the Library lawn is currently being repaired and stabilized. When the Belvedere Grant monies are decided upon in November, there may be some money designated for these repairs.

**New Business:** Abby Fitzgerald, long-time member of the HRC, has decided to step down from her Alternate member position. As she will be unable to attend many upcoming meetings, she would like to allow an opportunity for another to serve in her place. The Select Board will appoint a new member soon.

Letters to Stewards of Town Historic Properties- Meg reminded Committee members that the annual letter from HRC to the stewards of Town historic properties will be sent in January. She asked for a volunteer to draft a generic letter. Susan Snead presented a past copy of said letter, and Meg will send a copy to HRC members for review. A new letter will be created at the next meeting.

Chapter 12 Comprehensive Plan- Meg reported that Jean Freeman-White had sent a copy of *Chapter 12 THE HARBOR* of the Comprehensive Plan for HRC Committee review and comment. Our discussion centered on item (11) on page 12-6 regarding historic materials. Through discussion it was believed that the materials from the Camden History Center were transferred to the Camden Public Library around 2005. Someone will check with Heather at the CPL about the status of these materials. Committee members wondered if we should make a recommendation to about item #11. Should a goal of the Town be to create a marine museum? or should the action be to encourage identification and collection of possible items from potential donors and add to the existing materials at the Camden Public Library? Should the Town create a local history museum including all kinds of materials and artifacts including marine artifacts? Meg agreed to contact Barbara Dyer and Heather for background concerning item #11 as written in Chapter 12.

Other than this item in Chapter 12, the only other section that related to historic resources was the beginning paragraph, and the HRC felt this paragraph was okay.

Historic Preservation Ordinance- Chapter 14 of the Comprehensive Plan as currently proposed suggests that the HRC's responsibilities will increase to a become a committee with legal powers. Since the historic ordinance did not pass in 2011, the Select Board has asked the Historic Resources Committee to propose an ordinance to present to the Planning Board. We will need to create an outline and timeline of how to approach this task. It will require a fair amount of research and information gathering.

- To begin our research:
- 1) Meg has asked Richard Householder for information previously gathered from other towns for us to look at.
  - 2) We need to ascertain the criteria for Downtown Network Community status and how to move to a Maine Street Community status. How strict does an ordinance need to be in order to satisfy Maine Street status?
  - 3) HRC will need to look at what we feel is expedient and possible. Can we manage what we create?
  - 4) What would the name of the evolved committee be?

In addition to the above discussion, we talked about the necessity of meeting with other Town committees and the importance of informing the public of the value of this ordinance.

Actions agreed to:

- 1) Pat will ask Michael Skaling to join the HRC for a general session on "Change Management and Communication" to orient and help the Committee define its task.
- 2) Meg will contact Richard Householder concerning other towns' plans for Certified Local Government.
- 3) Beedy will look in her files to see what materials she may have from the previous endeavor.
- 4) Meg will research the requirements for Certified Local Government vs Maine Street Government.

- 5) Pat will send e-mail to HRC members requesting a list of possible stakeholders in the ordinance issue.
- 6) Each HRC member will brainstorm and create a list of potential stakeholders in the ordinance issue and send list to Pat for compilation before the next meeting.

HRC Overlap Review: The HRC was tasked by the Select Board to consider how our committee can interact with all other town committees and to develop a plan of review for accomplishing this. After looking at the list of town committees, we determined we could scratch the Board of Assessment Review, the Budget Committee, the Budget Nominating Committee, and the Personnel Board since Historic Resources Committee has little to no common ground with them. For the eleven remaining committees, our plan is to discuss one committee per meeting, beginning with the Cemetery Committee at the November meeting. HRC members are asked to go to the Town website and read about the Cemetery Committee before the next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Respectively submitted,  
Pat Skaling