

## BOW HERITAGE COMMISSION

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Meeting's minutes

### **GENERAL BUSINESS: Call to order @ 9:01 am**

In attendance are; Eric Anderson; Chair, Dik Dagarvarian; Treasurer, Sue Wheeler; Secretary, Faye Johnson, Jim Dimick, Dave Lindquist, Jen Ritz (formerly Kelly) and Don Fournier. John Meissner (Vice Chair) and Bruce Marshall (BoS rep.) have excused absences.

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes - JD makes a motion to accept the minutes as written with FJ seconding. All were in favor to accept.

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes – Discussion of the minutes... reviewing verbiage of the section upon voting to assist the Town in paying half the cost to re-glaze the windows of the BCSH and purchasing storm windows. FJ makes a motion to reconsider the vote of Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> with EA seconding the said motion for further discussion. If we voted in the affirmative, we can discuss the motion. If we did not, than we cannot discuss it. DD asks if the consideration of the vote is different to discuss rather than just accepting the minutes as written. He suggests that the reconsideration of the vote taken should be separate from the actual approval of the minutes. EA says that we tried to withhold from a vote because we felt it was imperative for DD to be here before we vote upon it. But Mike Wayne was insistent that we vote right then and there and we voted on it without looking into other options we felt were better suited for an answer to cover the cost. SW did the best she could to cover all discussions made during the lead in to vote and the actual vote itself. If the information of the meeting is accurate than we should approve the minutes as written says DD. JD asks FJ what is the error we need to fix in the minutes? FJ says the figures in the minutes don't make sense. DD asks FJ if she knows what things in the minutes need to be corrected? The reconsideration should be what came out of the vote of the meeting. FJ thinks what we did was not legal. EA rules the motion at hand out of order. We will proceed with the motion to accept the minutes. JD to accept the minutes as written with DL seconding the motion (EA appointed DL to vote in replacement of JM's vote) the vote is 5 to 1 in accepting this motion. EA will consider this now to be "old business" and jump over to financials.

BHC Financials – The operating budget is at \$2,806.93 with the Heritage Fund at \$18,915.20 with an addition of \$1.86 of monthly earned interest.

Mike Wheeler, our guest and BBMH window covering builder highly states that the window covering costs should actually be billed to the Town and not the BHC. Considering the Town owns the building he feels that this cost should be part of the budget initiated by our buildings manager and facilities person. EA fully understands where Mike is coming from but we (BHC) had already agreed to an amount for supplies and we could take the cost out of our operating

budget. (Which is fulfilled by the Town.) Mike is just making sure that the Heritage fund should not be used to repair or update Town-owned facilities and buildings. He knows that most all of the money in this said fund has been donated by several private citizens and already is earmarked for certain things and/or historic buildings in Town. DD said that we need definition about monies to spend or not to spend. He wants to meet with Geoff very soon and get everything laid out to explain to all. DD also says that the operating budget is where we have paid for paint for the shutters, etc. JD also informed us that is where we have had materials and supplies for the BHC to be paid for. FJ says that in order to spend the money, every BHC member has to vote for this approval. She also states there is an RSA stating that no one can remove money without total approval of our commission. DL states that he believes we already have appropriated the money for Mike to go ahead and purchase the material for these window coverings. So that out of our budget, the town IS paying for the materials. EA says there is a line item for preservation in our operating budget that usually includes documents, etc. He doesn't see why that couldn't apply to the "preservation" of the windows of the BBMH to help preserve the wavy glass from environmental damage. DD would like to take a couple of weeks to make sure he can talk to Geoff to see how this bill would be applied. He asks Mike to wait to submit his bill for materials. We agreed to do it in the first place so that in proper definition, we should pay the bill. JD moves to accept the treasurer's report with DL seconding the motion. 6 to 0 in favor of accepting the treasurers' report. SW submitted a bill for picture frames for the wall exhibit at the OTH.

Correspondence – nothing at this time

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

BCSH Repairs: There is a motion on the floor for reconsidering the vote in assisting the Town to pay for the re-glazing of windows at the BCSH and purchase of storm windows. 5 to 0 in favor of reconsidering the vote with 1 abstention. FJ would like to rescind her vote. The item was to pay for half out of our Heritage fund for the repairs listed above with the thought of being reimbursed by the Town from somewhere. JD reminds us that if we receive grant money for the BCSH (once registered with the State) that was to be applied back to the Heritage fund. FJ says grant money isn't easy to achieve without some assistance from Chris Andrews. Chris is to meet with FJ to go over ways to receive a grant. FJ states that about 2 years ago in the BFL, CN (BoS representative at the time for our meeting) wanted to know how we were going to use this money towards the celebration or 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Town. A parade was suggested, fireworks, etc. FJ told CN that one of the things we (BHC) wanted to do was get all of our historic buildings registered with the State and bring them all up to snuff for the celebration. Then, in comes Mike Wayne inquiring that we make a 5 year plan to spend our money in basically the same regard. It seems Chris Andrews wants to spend town money instead of going for a grant according to FJ. It isn't easy to achieve a grant. There are times when we may be perfectly qualified but it just wasn't us who were picked, etc. We have plenty of time to achieve this goal without being "pushed" to do so right now. In CA's budget for this year there is a line

item for checking the kitchen tile in the BCSH for asbestos. So we are losing another year with small budgeted items that won't be available until July 2022. So FJ said she would gladly make a motion to start the procedure in whether to get a small grant or a large one for the asbestos (if it is) removal, etc. We should apply to do the BCSH all in one grant. FJ and SW are willing to raise money for the schoolhouse. When we had the elementary kids come to the schoolhouse and the other older structures they were so excited and we think the parents would definitely like to help. JR states, as one of those parents, I'd be willing to help! Yes, the windows do need to be fixed, but if we could wrap that up in a year, we could still protect the windows. JD suggests we need to sit down with CA and figure out what he wants to accomplish in his time frame against what we could do in receiving a grant. EA says we have divided responsibility with no one in charge...Yes, he is in charge but still looks at us to pay for it. We definitely should be an advisory authority based on historic issues. Unfortunately CA isn't at our meeting or our BoS representative either. It's difficult to ask questions or to get any definitive answers with proper representation. EA asks what is the will of this commission of money and projects at the BCSH? Do we want to meet with CA, JD, DL and FJ and pick a day and time as a possible subcommittee? EA would like only 3 members of the group available so not too many to affirm a "meeting". JD said that he doesn't need to get involved as far as the grant applications go, but if SW wants to get involved (she is willing to give it a go) and EA suggests DD should be there representing money ideas, we should consider an informational session. The windows are in pretty bad shape at the moment and not all of them it accordingly. Back in the day, says FJ, the Town didn't take very good care of the schoolhouses. Do we want to make them "spiffy" or accurate for the time but still safe? JD says we ought to make sure the windows are tight without gaps to slow down any additional damage inside or out. Storm windows are likely to obscure the appearance of the wavy glass. EA states the BCSH has been there over 100 years without the need of storm windows. This is true... We need to know CA's approach to the repairs and improvements with our ideas as well. JR asks are storm windows going to be "appropriate" when trying to place the building on the State's Registry? Some updates may NOT meet their requirements for this application. There are storm windows on the inside of the OTH but that building is not on the historical registry yet, either. JR says her familiarity with historic registries out in California were so rigid with proper paint color, etc. DL says, we already have an estimate of cost for re-glazing the windows and storm window purchase, correct? Yes. \$6500.00 total. \$400.00 in re-glazing and \$2500.00 for storm windows. FJ inquires that we may need money out of our operating budget to move us in the future. We wish the money to come back to us out of grant money but that doesn't always happen. FJ says most generally it goes back in the Town's general fund. FJ is concerned if we pony up the money from our operating budget then we have nothing left to "operate" our commission with. FJ says it is hard to understand when the vote happened. EA says, in our new budget proposal we did NOT put anything in there about repairs to the BCSH. Just our routine preservation and supplies. EA states that CA needs to put in his operating budget the necessary money for those repairs. DL would like to suggest in our next scheduled regular meeting afterwards to get together with CA and our BoS representative to discuss all this and clear the air. EA will re-invite them for this

purpose. Is there a motion to table this discussion until we meet with the said parties for clarification in regards to funds and appropriations? JD made the motion with DD seconding with all in favor of tabling until next month.

NH State Register of Historic Places - No updates at this time.

Date and Time to mount the pictures at the OTH – Ladder and cabling are there in the closet already. FJ and SW have the stuff and pictures to choose from. It's a good place to showcase our town's history. Nice to have a rotating display as well. Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am - 12pm has been decided. A work session to get this accomplished has been determined.

History of Native Americans in Bow – no information available now. She would like to explore the Baker Room downstairs. FJ says that she can access the Baker room through the Library by telling them she is a member of the BHC. Easy enough. EA will give the BFL a current roster of the members of the BHC.

BHC report for the Annual Town report – Has been submitted to the Town.

LCHIP annual report – FJ has submitted it with LCHIP's approval. They were very pleased with all FJ did with this report.

Photos of the BBMH snow being held back by the snow stops and window coverings were exhibited. Both seem to be doing their job! JD wants to paint the frames green and other pieces that stick out white. Mike Wheeler wants to also fix the porta - potty enclosure seems to be a little loose.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

BoS Report – Tabled until next month.

Baker Room Scheduling – EA asks if we want to make that room available for the public? I think we will revisit this issue after Covid 19 recedes. FJ and SW will get together and evaluate the situation.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

BHC meeting dates: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, and March 15, 2022 at 9am TBA.

Zoning Amendments Hearing – Thursday Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Room C, Municipal building 7pm

Annual Town Meeting - Voting at Community Center Mar.8<sup>th</sup>, 7am – 7pm

Annual Town Meeting – Deliberative Session at BHS, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

One other item: EA states that if we want to run for Officers within the Town, sign ups open tomorrow Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 and run a week until next Friday.

Burning Issues – FJ brought up that in March when we will be voting, it has been 2 years since the pandemic started. Time flies.

DL as an alternate asks, we have 7 people counting the select board rep. in BHC to vote, correct? Yes. So if someone is absent, would an alternate be able to replace the permanent members vote? Yes. But the Chair has the ability to appoint which alternate represents the absent permanent member. But any alternate member can discuss and hash over all conversations and such. But one should be more serious when it comes down to finances. You can still exercise your answer or rights but not be counted if there is a full commission at hand. There are very few Commissions and Boards that have our Board of Selectman representatives. WE are one.

DL also asks, when or if we move down to the old municipal building basement, are we going to have enough room there for all we own? We have stuff at DPW, and other locations. Some items, rather large. No one has invited us down to that Planning Board area to actually see how much space there is. But EA was asked the other day where we would see ourselves getting a home. He stated, the Coffin Bldg. seems like a good spot. The accessibility from the Municipal Bldg. to the Coffin Bldg. parking lot is like night and day.

We welcome Don Fournier as a new alternate member. All in favor of Don coming on board! Congratulations!

FJ has 2 certificates for Janet Shaw and Dick Stevens. Found them. We could invite them to the next meeting for presentation, or wait a bit.

JD makes a motion to adjourn with DL seconding the motion. The vote 6 to 0. Motion passes, time being 10:39.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Wheeler, Secretary, BHC.