

BOW HERITAGE COMMISSION

Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 Meeting's minutes

Unapproved

PUBLIC COMMENT / GUESTS

Chris Andrews and John Sarette – John was unable to make the meeting. Maybe next month. Chris has no update on the BBMH snow & ice, window/ shutter protection. Everything seems to be working. He may be calling on John Sarette to help with the gutter support pieces for the backside on the BCSH.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Attendance – Eric Anderson, Chair; John Meissner, Vice Chair, Dik Dagarvarian, Treasurer; Sue Wheeler, Secretary; Jim Dimick, Faye Johnson, Don Fournier and Bruce Marshall, Select Board representative. Jen Ritz was unable to attend due to work obligations. Jen sent an email informing us that she has visited the Kearsage Museum and has gotten ideas about a Native American presentation and display. She has a walkable display case to possibly use. And on another note, we welcome Don Fournier to our commission as an alternate.

Minutes – The minutes for Jan. 18th, 2022 were moved by John to accept with Jim duly seconding the motion. All were in favor.

Eric mentions the obituary of Walter Parker who had been a volunteer with the BFL for years. There is a photo presentation in the BFL lobby (put together by Eric) depicting his years of service both Military and community. He was 100 years young. Thank you.

Financials – The operating budget balance is \$2718.44 with \$88.49 in expenditures for a recorder and frames for the OTH photo display. Heritage fund balance is \$18,917.03 with \$1.83 in monthly interest. Jim motions to accept this month's financial report w/John duly seconding the motion. All accepted. Dik met with Geoff Ruggles (Town Financier) and reviewed the restricted funds of the Heritage Fund and categorized the purpose of the funds. BBMH and Baker Room were a couple of examples. As of Dec. 31st, 2021, \$3534.24 are restricted funds in certain categories. Operating budget – according to the RSA, preservation is in preserving artifacts only, with any supplies we may need to perform the task. As far as our historical buildings, the funds are the responsibilities of the Town. Chris is the director of this w/assistance from the BHC. Geoff feels we are responsible for any “extraordinary” maintenance which goes above and beyond normal maintenance we discuss w/Chris. Example – the restoration of the BBMH shutters that we took on this year. Geoff's opinion is if we feel part of the maintenance needs a higher standard of cost, we would kick in extra that went above the normal maintenance price. He also stated we may be able to move into the space at the

Municipal Building by the end of the year. Moving expenses would have the assistance of the DPW with the exception of the old safe which is very heavy to move. Chris seems to think DPW can move the safe. Follow-up with Tim Sweeney... There are still concerns about handicapped accessibility for that location. Dave asked Dik where the bulk of our Heritage Fund money came from. Over the years (since 2010) the total has accumulated from the sale of books, notecards, posters, calendars, sun catchers and various donations including LCHIP. This total also has included money from the BHC (Bow Historical Committee, pre – 2005). We also have to include the “100 Club” for designated donations for the BBMH. More research will be done that involved a bank book from our former members. We all thank Dik for his following up on questions regarding the Heritage Fund.

Correspondence – There was an email about seeking information regarding Town of Bow postcards. No postcards were found that we or the Town have. Faye brought in a couple of postcards her family had and shared with us. One was of horses down on 3A and another from Eric’s grandmother and mother sent from FL to Faye’s grandmother. The Kimball Jenkin’s estate wanted unique postcards from each Town in NH. Also included in correspondence was 2 Planning Board proposals inquiring if the BHC had any concerns in these new lot lines, etc. This is followed up in burning issues later on.

OLD BUSINESS

NH register of Historical places – Faye is still working on and wishes any one that wants to do some research on the BCSH, Town Pound, etc., to let her know.

History of Native Americans – Email from Jen earlier.

Baker Room Public schedule – All basically depends on the BFL and us reviewing the MOU w/BFL. This to open up would include a BHC member or Library staff to be with any public guest at all times in the room. Faye, Sue, Dik and Jim are showing interest to assist.

NEW BUSINESS

BoS Report – Selectman Marshall states that we could take over the Assessor’s office area by the end of 2022. A building committee that Chris heads is going over electrical issues, shearing up the upper level floor to support their many heavy files, etc. Upcoming Town warrant articles were highlighted and explanation of the Town Governance Committee were included. Voting issues were assessed and this committee was formed to help in communication. Bruce would like to continue working on the plans for the BBMH carriage sheds once the snow melts. There needs to be surveying of the property lines done. He suggests the BHC to put in a request to the Select Board a CIP towards the cost of requirements for constructing the carriage sheds in time for our 300th Anniversary. (2027) Selectman Marshall also believes the BHC should meet with Chris for an assessment of the historical buildings and perhaps put money into a CIP towards anything costly to attend to. A CIP is needed when the cost goes above \$25,000.00 Bruce hopes to get us an amount and plans to negotiate a CIP towards the carriage sheds for BBMH. The

Coffin bldg. was brought up again and it just isn't going to be an option to house the BHC. Another topic brought up was a donation/gift form sent to us by the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston. The BHC sent them a copy of 100 Acres, More or Less for the Town of Bow reference. Bruce took a look at that document and decided to call them for more clarity of the form. He found out that they wanted us to sign over the rights to the book as stated in the form. So our apprehension to sign the form was well founded. Thanks, Bruce for the explanation and validation.

Facebook Interest – Eric came across two Facebook interests called “Everything NH” and “Historic Homes of NH”. Nice sites to visit. Faye suggests we should get the Historic House sign project going again. We need to promote that project through advertising and public awareness. Some homes on the list have already been demolished and need to be noted as that.

Bow Heritage Day – We would like to set aside a date of September 17th, 2022 if all goes well. A map of historic buildings and sites would be a great idea with a member at designated locations at each spot to authenticate the information.

Reappointment of members – March and April we have 3 members up for reappointment. John, Dik and Jen are the three. Eric will follow up with Jen.

IMPORTANT DATES

BHC Meeting date: March 15th at 9am at the BFL.

Turf Field Bond hearing – Feb. 17th at 6pm at BHS Auditorium.

Candidates Night – Wed, Feb. 23rd, 6:30 pm at BFL

Annual Town Meeting – Voting at the Community Center March 8th from 7am to 7pm.

Annual Town Meeting – Deliberative Session at BHS March 9th at 6:30 pm.

Annual Bow School District Meeting at BHS Fri. March 11th at 6pm.

BURNING ISSUES

Eric took a lovely “sun-kissed” picture of the Sycamore Tree.

Jim brought up the 2 Planning Board proposals. Sampo/Dawkins property lines are being adjusted. Jim moves that the Sampo/Dawkins lot adjustment does not concern the BHC and to sign off. Dik seconds the motion with all in favor. Another lot – Page Road subdivision behind Richardson's house. There was supposedly remnants of a saw mill or logging operation deep within the property. Jim moves that we sign off but if the new owner finds any remnants of an old mill or machinery that the BHC be informed. Dik seconds the motion with all in favor.

Dave would like to view one of the video interviews we have on hand. He suggests that once we are in our new home, the public should be able to view them. Jim says that maybe we could put them on our website. Check privacy issues for those not already deceased. If we were to interview anyone now there could possibly be a waiver or release from the citizen to sign so as not to have any privacy issues come up if we were to put the interview on the website.

Faye would like the issue of the money that was appropriated to the BCSH windows from us, to be brought up next month now that we have a clearer understanding of the Heritage Fund.

Bruce says that when the Planning Board proposal involving the Colby property comes up we need to address any historic issues. A lot has to be considered on that property. And his last burning issue is to GO OUT AND VOTE!

Jim motions to adjourn with Dik seconding the motion. All were in favor of adjourning at 11:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Wheeler, BHC Secretary