

TOWN OF NEWPORT
Heritage Commission Meeting
Municipal Building - Newport, NH 03773
Minutes of November 27, 2017-6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting and Public Hearings

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Cathryn Baird, Chairperson; Jacqueline Cote, Dean Stetson, Brian Kelly, Alternate; John Hooper II, BOS Representative

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Virginia Irwin

VIDEOGRAPHER: Louis Cassorla

STAFF PRESENT: Julie M. Magnuson, Planning & Zoning Administrator

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Baird called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by a roll call. Chairperson Baird appointed Mr. Brian Kelly to sit for Mrs. Virginia Irwin.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

ADMINISTRATION:

Discussion of Corbin Covered Bridge 25th Anniversary Celebration (October 13, 2019)

Chairperson Baird addressed the Commission and viewing public and stated that there would be a presentation on the Corbin Covered Bridge 25th Anniversary Celebration.

She acknowledged Dean Stetson and asked him to explain what was planned. Mr. Stetson stated that he was working as Coordinator of the Newport Historical Society with regards to the celebration. Planning was in its early stages. He then read aloud from a prepared script (for the full presentation go to <https://vimeo.com/channels/nctvchannel8>) giving a short synopsis of the original celebration and some potential ideas for the 2019 celebration. He stated that the Newport Historical Society was requesting that the event be sanctioned through municipal affiliation to cover liability of the event scheduled to be on October 13th and 14th 2019 (Columbus Day Weekend).

Mr. Stetson stated that if anyone was interested in the first rebuilding of the Corbin Covered Bridge the Newport Historical Society had a mountain of information on it. Mr. Stetson also invited anyone who would like to be a part of the 2019 Festival Committee to contact him. The next meeting would be December 13, 2017 at the Newport Historical Society and was open to the public.

Ms. Magnuson addressed Mr. Stetson and stated that one group he should contact was the Conservation Commission. Information sent to Ms. Magnuson would be forwarded to the Chairman. She also stated that in speaking to Town Manager Rieseberg, he had recommended that the committee include as many Town boards and departments as possible and it would be sanctioned as a Town event. She listed the following: Heritage Commission, Conservation Commission, Rec Department and School. She was not familiar with the Town insurance; Mr. Hooper, as Selectman, would have a better understanding.

Ms. Magnuson also suggested that some of the groups contacted have a representative on the Committee. Mr. Stetson asked if it was advisable to have a BOS Representative on the Committee.

Chairperson Baird explained the establishment of the Corbin Covered Bridge (CCB) Committee within the Historical Society. She stated that it was not exclusive. Members of the original committee to rebuild the bridge were part of it as well as current members not on the original committee. A date had been set

for the festival. Sanctioning the event as a Town event was now necessary for liability purposes. She requested that Mr. Hooper discuss this with the Selectmen.

Chairperson Baird then addressed the public and invited them to join the CCB Committee or subcommittees, asking them to contact the Newport Historical Society, Dean Stetson or Jackie Cote or Cathryn Baird. She repeated the next meeting would be December 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Historical Society (Nettleton House Museum).

Meetings would be posted on the NCTV Community Calendar.

The Commission and Ms. Magnuson brainstormed on the community groups and artisans that might participate as well as projects to take place in Newport to coincide with the 25th anniversary.

Discussion of the adoption of 79-E

Ms. Magnuson explained NH Statute 79-E. She stated several communities around Newport have adopted 79-E.

Ms. Magnuson explained the process the Town would go through before adopting 79-E in Newport. She stated that the final decision would be by Newport voters in May 2018 at Newport's Town meeting.

Ms. Magnuson stated that the BOS would decide what the criteria was for the applicants of 79-E in Newport. They would define the areas of Town with eligible buildings (not just the historic district). 79-E would be implemented on a case by case application, and awarding 79-E would be decided by the BOS.

In Newport, currently the Newport Mill and the old Arlington Sample buildings were both examples of buildings that would be eligible as potential 79-E applications.

Chairperson Baird expressed the need to educate the public on 79-E. When people understood it they would understand the benefits to the Town and that it followed the 2012 Master Plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

A lengthy discussion was held on topics within the Heritage Commission's and Ms. Magnuson's purview. Among them were:

- 79-E
- The Ordinance on "junkyards": the impression of Newport and garbage along roads
- The Methodist Church's steeple and structure
- Signage
- The weekend of the Corbin Covered Bridge Festival (conflicts with area festivities)
- "No Char" application on the Pier and Wright Bridges
- The river way rail trail from turbine 2 to S. Main Street.
- Senior Housing at the Newport Mill

Mr. Hooper, as BOS representative, gave a synopsis of the Green-up Day, the Newport Garden Club and "Adopt an Area" in Town programs to start in spring 2018.

MINUTES: May 22, 2017

On a motion by Mr. Stetson, seconded by Mrs. Cote; *the Commission approved the minutes of the May 22, 2017 meeting as presented. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

Chairperson Baird called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mrs. Cote, seconded by Mr. Hooper; *the Commission voted to adjourn at 7:13 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on December XX, 2017