

Heritage Commission  
Danville, NH  
Minutes of May 13, 2015 Meeting

**Present:** Carol Baird (Chair), Linda Roth (Vice-Chair), Mary Ann DiStefano (Member),  
Selectperson Member: Annemarie Inman

**Absent & Excused:** Aamber-Rose McIntyre (Alternate member)

Carol called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was televised.

**Draft Minutes of April 22, 2015**

Draft Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2015 were reviewed and corrections made. A motion was made by Linda to accept minutes as amended, seconded by Annemarie, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Mail/Announcements**

- The Heritage Commission has one full member (three year term) and two alternate members (1-one year term and 1-three year term). Meetings are held at the town hall on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Established by Danville voters in 1996, the Heritage Commission is an official town board created to serve the town, the residents and organizations. Its mission is to oversee and protect the historic district and identify those places in Danville that embody the character, culture, and tradition handed down through generations. If you are a Danville resident and love history and/or historic buildings, please consider serving. Contact information: The Heritage Commission may be reached by calling the Board of Selectmen Office at the Danville Town Hall (603-382-8253x3) or write to us at 210 Main Street, Danville, NH 03819.
- On May 2, 2015 there will be another planning and zoning conference by the Office of Energy & Planning. Planlink sent out materials that were discussed, and there is lots of good information. Carol sought permission to email it to all. Mary Ann made a motion as such, Linda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Discussion**

**1. Eagle Scout Project – Tuckertown Road**

Caleb Cretian has been in touch with Carol and he is getting his plan together and had questions about the roadway and its background which Carol explained for him as follows.

Tuckertown Road was called a “rangeway” in the 1700s. There were differing opinions as to the owners of the rangeways. Tuckertown Road had been laid out in land left for a highway in 1766 known as Hawke. The Board of Selectmen took advantage of that. There are some who claim the abutters owned to the middle of the road. Abutters owned the middle road, and that was the controversy. The issue is ownership of the rangeways. When the Tuckertown Road dispute over ownership arose, the Board of Selectmen said it was more beneficial for the town to do an easement than have an expensive lawsuit over ownership. Carol had attorney articles about the controversy that occurred in the past regarding the road.

Caleb also inquired about the sign he wants to put up designating the project is an Eagle Scout project done by him. It will be three to four foot square sign which will be made by a carpenter. The Board of Selectmen was polled on it and said it was fine. Signs in the historic district per the ordinance are supposed to be reviewed by the Heritage Commission for the entire road from beginning to Sandown line. Carol expressed her opinion that since the area is now an easement for the walking trail and is now owned by private parties that section of the road does not require review by the Heritage Commission.

Caleb will bring his final plans to Heritage. Mary Ann made a motion to forward the attorney articles to Caleb. Linda seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## 2. Parsonage Fund

Carol recited the history of the Parsonage Lands and Fund. The Town of Danville has two parcels of land that are a direct link to the lives of the early residents who helped establish this community in 1760. The meeting house was built by 27 individuals in 1755 who deeded it to the town. It was a meeting house, church, means to teach children, and a way to support the community. It was transferred in 1760 when Hawke was breaking off from Kingston. They had the Parsonage lands set aside to build these structures. At that time there were several requirements for approval of an independent community: a minister to preach, a place to worship and provision for the children's education. Settlers were also required to set off community lands, called "Parsonage Land", to help support the ministry.

Kingston wanted Hawke to continue using its Parsonage land and did a land swap. Hawke ended up with the current deeds which state it was for the support of the ministry forever.

The Parsonage Fund was created in the 1800s. Other churches were established. In the 1990s the committee who oversaw the fund recommended taking the remainder to use for preservation of the Meeting House. A warrant article passed which would discontinue the Parsonage Committee and transfer the funds to the trustees of that trust's funds. This was challenged and it went to the Attorney General's office. They wanted to change it from a ministry to be used for preservation and maintenance of the Meeting House. The principal was left there.

Carol helped the Board of Selectmen with the historic facts months ago and is now bogged down with the factual information provided in deeds for provision and use of the money. Heritage has a lot of information, i.e. deeds regarding the Parsonage land and the Meeting House and lots of information appropriate for sharing with the Board of Selectmen. She asked if the board would approve. Mary Ann made a motion to share any and all information to help the Board of Selectmen clear up the Parsonage land/fund issue. Annemarie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Carol may need to go to Concord, NH for more information. It appears that the Parsonage Committee was not formed until 36 years after the town had the Parsonage Land.

The information in the 1700s and 1800s in Concord is stored and needs to be confirmed for 30 years it was used for the minister and the Meeting House.

All we have now says it is supposed to go to the ministry. There are gray areas that need to be clarified. It appears the interest was the only thing that was always taken for repairs. The

Meeting House was also used as the church. The issue is what was their intent and what should we be doing now.

It is unknown as to when the fund was established. Carol will go to Concord and see the old minutes of the town. We have no information from 1760 to early 1800s. The minutes of the town meetings are important. We have nothing earlier than 1828 when they had income, etc.

### 3. Stagecoach Stop & Store

Mary Ann got an estimate from Hampstead Print & Copy on the brochures and a draft brochure was passed around which looked great. Carol has not done the timeline for Mary Ann but will do it soon.

Carol worked on the book marks more. Linda made a motion for Carol to email her information to everyone. Mary Ann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Carol noted there are only a few fliers in the box at the town hall. It will need to be refilled soon.

### 4. Heritage Commission Regular Meeting.and Site Visit

The Board of Selectmen are meeting so Annemarie will not be available. Mary Ann is also unavailable. The meeting will be cancelled. Carol will let Caleb and Paul know of meeting cancellation.

The site visit is June 7 at 11 a.m. and Laurie will send an email reminder.

### 5. Annemarie's Resignation

Annemarie resigned from the Board of Selectmen effective June 1, 2015 so Heritage will lose her as the Selectperson's representative.

### **Adjournment:**

Linda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. which was seconded by Mary Ann and the motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES PREPARED BY LAURIE J. CREVATIS**

**Amended/Approved on June 17, 2015 by majority of the Commission**