

Hollis Heritage Commission
Town of Hollis, Hollis, NH 03049

Date: 25 February, 2020

Members Present: Wendy Trimble, David Sullivan, Karla Vogel, Jan Larmouth, Doug Nye, Michael Bates, Aurelia Perry

Members Absent: Susan Benz, Honi Glover

Meeting: Called to order: 7:00pm. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: January, 2020

Approved – motion by Michael; 2nd by Doug.

Finance: Jan reports that we have \$2,947.00 in the general Heritage Fund; \$13,739.66 in the Cooper Shop Fund, with total interest earned in January of \$41.76. Including the Money Market account, the total funds that we have available for the Cooperage are \$33,739.66.

Business: Reminder that Town voting for Selectmen is Tuesday, March 10, at the Lawrence Barn.

Cooperage: Karla suggested that we begin a ledger of volunteers' and laborers' work and materials value. Our plan is to get the frame and building up, and later put in the essential stone chimney, and the brick chimney foundation and brick forge. The original structure was c. 1840, so we will find period-appropriate forge input. We may use antique bricks.

The Cooper Shop subcommittee will next meet on March 12, at 7pm, and then again on March 17 if necessary. The next step will be organizing all the wood, and figuring out inventory.

Gambrel Barn open days: we'd like to open the Barn on summer days, similar to what the Hollis Historical Society does with their museums, once or twice a month, in conjunction with the Historical Society dates.

Drive-It Day: we are looking at possibly May 30th or June 27th, and will unveil the Woodmont-area storyboards we've completed at that time.

Michael reports from the Historic District Commission that one submission came in for the property owner to remove some dead bushes that are encroaching on her barn, and to replace them with maples.

Dave reported on the proposed development that may be going in between Worcester Road, North Pepperell Road, and Deer Run. There are 18 acres, on which 5 houses are proposed. This may significantly impact the historical and rural character of the Town. As mentioned in these minutes last month, conservation interests are still looking at any potential water and wildlife impact. Dave pointed out that although the Heritage Commission does not have jurisdiction on the property, it would be within our provenance to weigh in with our concerns. The proposed extra-large fire cistern would also be an eyesore, and is not required. A single-pipe cistern would blend in and more than

suffice for the purposes. By putting in a “buffer” line of trees on Worcester Road, connecting at that corner with other trees around the proposed cistern on North Pepperell Road, they would also be adding something that was never there and would be obstructing the view of the corner. That could be a traffic hazard, obscuring the line of sight of drivers, as well as detrimental to the historically agricultural and rural character of that neighborhood. Worcester Road and North Pepperell are both designated Scenic Roads, and have been since 1973. The Planning Board has already been taking letters regarding concern about aspects of the project; it was suggested that the Heritage Commission compose a letter to the Planning Board. Aurelia moved that the HHC write a letter to the Planning Board regarding these observations; Michael 2nd. Put to a vote, and passed with a great majority.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Next Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 24th.

Respectfully submitted by Aurelia Perry.