

Hollis Heritage Commission
Town of Hollis, Hollis, NH 03049

Date: 26 April, 2018

Members Present: Honi Glover, Frank Cadwell, Wendy Trimble, Agatha Connelly, Josey MacMillan, Karla Vogel, David Sullivan, Aurelia Perry

Members Absent: Jan Larmouth, Michael Bates

Meeting: Called to order: 7:03pm

Minutes: March 27 2018. Approved with amendments made earlier – motion by Wendy; 2nd by Dave.

April 4, 2018. Approved – motion by Wendy; 2nd by Honi.

Finance: Jan has reported by e-mail that the accounts remain the same as last month.

Business: We attended the meeting with the Selectmen and Nichols Smith Land Trust earlier this month. Dave expressed disappointment with the meeting, as we did not have an opportunity to present our interests to the Selectmen. Frank pointed out that the meeting was set up that way because Attorney Drescher made it clear that he believes the Selectmen to have very little say or power, and that he has no interest in participating in the discussion.

The Town has been behind the project of restoring the Noah Dow Cooperage at Woodmont; the Selectmen have been behind the project of restoring the Noah Dow Cooperage at Woodmont; the farmer leasing the Woodmont land has been behind the project of restoring the Noah Dow Cooperage at Woodmont. Attorney Drescher, and the Land Trust, following their own attorney, are against it. They have expressed that they will not listen to the possibility of the Town, as the landowners, offering an amendment to the document; they reported that their attorney had advised them against it, primarily as any amendment would lessen their own power.

Wendy pointed out that the Land Trust document was written to be interpreted reasonably, as government documents are. In our estimation, the amendment would consist of five words added, and it would cost the HHC an estimated \$2000.

Dave and Wendy pointed out that it would be helpful for the Selectmen to formally ask the Land Trust to allow an amendment, on behalf of the Town, as the landowners.

The taxpayers of the Town paid to purchase the land at Woodmont, and the taxpayers of the Town have donated thousands of dollars to the HHC for restoration the Cooperage.

According to the literal interpretation of the Land Trust, we could instead consider re-building structures that were recently torn down from the property, including a building for the manufacture of pig swill.

Honi pointed out that perhaps the Land Trust didn't realize the agricultural purpose of a cooperative; Dave made the point that no amount of relevance is going to evolve the position of the Nichols Smith Land Trust, their attorney, or Attorney Drescher.

There might be another document to look into, regarding the creation of the parcel of land into the Land Trust, and their jurisdiction.

In discussion of alternative sites, Volunteer Park (Hilda's Walk) and near Lawrence Barn have been discussed. Either site would defeat the purpose of the grouping of historic buildings at Woodmont, including the existing Ice House and the Gambrel Barn, which the HHC restored and placed.

Drive-It Day: Karla reports that the Kimball Farm hydroponic gardens are confirmed as a destination, June 30.

Karla also reports that we have just 15 submissions for next year's Calendar. We are grateful for how hard she's been working to get the word out, asking for submissions in the newspaper and on the Town Facebook page! We will look at other places to advertise, including a poster at the Lawrence Barn.

Dave reported that it was suggested by the Selectmen to display the antique sleigh that was donated to the Heritage Commission at the Lawrence Barn, up in the loft. As long as we can get it up and down from there when we want to, that would be a good, safe, climate-controlled space for it. We are looking into formalizing the donation, and looking into how to insure it, as well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm. Motion by Wendy, 2nd by Karla.

The subcommittee for signage will look to meet before our next regular meeting.

Next Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Respectfully submitted by Aurelia Perry.