

**Hollis Heritage Commission**  
**Town of Hollis, Hollis, NH 03049**

**Date: 23 February, 2021**

**Members Present:** Susan Benz, Karla Vogel, Jan Larmouth, Honi Glover, Aurelia Perry

**Members Absent:** Michael Bates, David Sullivan, Wendy Trimble, Doug Nye

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

**Minutes:** January, 2020 – deferring approval until next month, as we don't have enough members present who were present in January to approve right now.

**Finance:** Jan reports that we have \$15,257.39 in the Cooper Shop account, \$20,000.00 in the Money Market account (interest from this account is added to the Cooper Shop account), and \$2,947.00 in the General Heritage account, for a cash-on-hand total of \$38,204.39. Interest accrued in January was \$4.81, and there has been no other activity on the accounts.

**Calendar:** Last year we seem to have started promoting the call for photos in March. Karla will start putting information out on Facebook, and will e-mail photographers from past years.

**Business:** **Banner:** we are having issues between the image we want to use, of the Farley Farm, which has been on our logo traditionally, and the printer. The image doesn't translate in a scalable manner. Karla suggested that we use an original image that Dave produced, of the Ice House, instead.

**Drive-It Day:** we will ask Dave, who has been so resourceful and helpful in putting together the programs and routes, what dates might be good for him in the coming season.

**Gambrel Barn open house:** we will need to clean it out, first, particularly the lower, "pig sty" level. Even though the Covid-19 pandemic is on-going, it was suggested that we try to open it once or twice in the coming summer. Perhaps we could roll it into July 4 – just have the doors open, flag flying.

**Recruitment:** we could use more members, on the Hollis Heritage Commission. We have two open Alternate positions. Wendy had suggested posting about the openings on Facebook, and possibly in the Hollis-Brookline newspaper. Susan will post regarding the openings on two Hollis Facebook groups of which she is an active member.

**Farley Building:** there is talk about how many "uses" we think could be handled in the building. There is great storage in the basement, which is all dry. Some offices in the Town Hall and Town Clerk are also quite interested in some aspects of the spaces in the Farley Building.

**Issues:** There may be concerns about having a public building, with general public access, so close to a school. Karla and Jan pointed out that the area is already open-access; the public can already get close to the school without any issue. Karla pointed out that there are two driveways that belong to the Farley Building already; the driveways could be re-designed to include some significant parking.

Another potential question is bussing and general school traffic, daily.

Karla gave us a “tour” of the building, with photos she took on a recent guided visit. She mentioned that the first and second floors are amazing areas that could assist with many of the Town’s office space concerns. The open third floor is also beautiful, with many possibilities; a meeting area or exhibit area would be ideal.

It’s a bright building, with a lot of light. Tin ceilings and wood floors are solid and in good condition. Offices could easily bring in their own modular spaces to install within the large rooms.

There is no asbestos in the building; a specialist will be brought in to test (mainly paint) for lead. Wiring, heating, and code updates will need to be performed. Additionally, an elevator will need to be installed at the back of the building.

The Farley Building is in great shape already, and the space is a huge asset to the Town. There is a lot of opportunity in the building, and it’s quite exciting.

**Demolition recording of 5 North Pepperell Road**, 2-bedroom ranch house that was built in the 1950s. Jan met Dave and Doug there, to review the house, which they found to be a solid, small property in decent condition. The owners would like to demolish the house and build a larger home, and have offered the current building to the Fire Department for a training property. It will be demolished in the coming months.

**Storyboards at Woodmont:** we are going to have the plexiglass taken off, to get rid of the buildup of humidity that is detracting from the boards. Jan pointed out that there is definitely traffic reading the boards; she has seen many tracks and footprints around them – they are being used, appreciated, and drawing interest.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.** Motion by Aurelia, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jan.

**Next Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 23.**

**Respectfully submitted by Aurelia Perry.**