

# Hollis Heritage Commission

Town of Hollis, Hollis, NH 03049

Date: November 23, 2021

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

**Members Absent:** Sharon McCaffrey, Cassandra Vorisek, Susan Benz

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

**Minutes:** October 2021. Approved – motion by Karla, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wendy.

**Finance:** Jan reports that we have \$21,128.08 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 \$1,680.87 in the general Heritage Fund account, for a cash-on-hand total of \$42,808.95. Interest accrued in October was \$3.57.

Activity on the accounts Included a check request for \$1,266.13 for the picnic table at Woodmont. Deposits included \$1,000.00 in calendar sales from Lull Farm; \$50.00 in calendar sales from the Dry Cleaners. Additionally noted, “The bill from the Copy Shop [\$4,430.00] and Dave’s reimbursement for the Ice House roof repair [180.00] missed the last check run. They will be processed tomorrow.”

## **Business:**

**Calendars:** The calendars are selling well; we will re-distribute those remaining to some of the higher-selling areas. We are making relatively little money on the sales (\$290.00 total, if all sell), but a good deal on the sponsorship. We do need to find a new printer (printing was \$900.00 less last year, at the same place, with fewer issues). We printed 500 calendars this year; Wendy would support going down to 400 next year. Michael suggested selling them for \$15 next year, up from \$10.

**Holiday Decorations:** Brookdale Farm Stand donated a large, gorgeous wreath for the Gambrel Barn (Jan will send a thank-you note), and Wendy dropped it off at the Barn. She and Doug will hang it next week; Jan has made a beautiful bow for the wreath.

**White Barn at Woodmont:** The Selectmen are looking to demolish the structure, due to difficulty of upkeep. We are trying to intercept the demolition, and lobby to keep it. Wendy pointed out that it would be in the Town’s interest to save the barn, as once a structure is gone from the property no replacement or other structure can be erected in its place. In the event that a future lessee of the land needs storage, they would not have any. Anecdotally, building inspectors have condemned the barn – but our members have seen no structural issues with it. Wendy brought up that we need to research the history of the White Barn, to have talking points regarding saving the building. Karla, Honi, and Wendy have already begun the research. It was apparently built in 1939, and is a strong part of the aesthetics and farming geography of the area; we restored the related Ice House and Gambrel Barn, and the White Barn is an integral part of that agricultural grouping. Dave pointed out, additionally, that the White Barn has a particularly interesting internal pulley system which is a nice representation of the technology of the time. We will try to photograph the system, to add to our petition to the Town. The Town already gave the Heritage Commission permission to use the Barn, approximately 11 years ago, as

long as we cleaned it out: which we did, and have used it ever since. Karla brought up that we have to first find out if the building inspector did in fact condemn the structure. Honi mentioned that, decades ago, there had been a building across from the White Barn that, in the 1700s and early 1800s, housed the Town cannon, to be fired in case of emergency. The barn is not just of interest itself, but is part of an area in general of great historical importance to the Town.

**Annual Inspection Walk of the Heritage Commission properties:** It was a nice morning, and the walk went well. Doug has spoken with Aaron Fyfe, and he is very happy to help us clean up the trails. We still have to get the memorial bench set back up, as well.

**Woodmont Properties:** Karla mentioned that 4-wheelers have torn up the landscaping significantly. We are going to look into solutions to that activity, including speaking with the police regarding any possibilities, and potentially installing game-cameras. Doug has facilitated delivery of the picnic table, and it is currently inside the Gambrel Barn. We will wait until spring to put it in place.

**December Meeting:** Sometimes we don't meet in December due to the holidays, but it was brought up that with the importance of gathering the history of the White Barn it would be useful to have a meeting at this point.

**Farley Building Committee:** Karla and Dave report that the committee is still preparing to submit a Warrant Article, in March, as previously discussed.

**Historic District Commission:** Michael reports that the November HDC meeting was cancelled, as there were no applications. Regarding the rebuilding of Herb Gardner's house, the four chimneys were initially going to be re-built: but with cost-overruns due to Covid and supply chain problems, however, the chimneys will now likely not be re-built.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.** Motion by Karla, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wendy.

**Next Meeting to be held at 7pm, Tuesday, December 28.**

**Respectfully submitted by Aurelia Perry.**