

City of Keene
New Hampshire

HERITAGE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

4:30 PM

**Council Chamber,
City Hall**

Members Present:

Cauley Powell, Chair
Molly Ellis, Vice Chair
Julie Emineth
Marilyn Huston
Louise Zerba, Alternate

Staff Present:

Evan Clements, Planner
Will Schoefmann, GIS Technician

Members Not Present:

Susan DeGidio
Rose Carey, Alternate

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

Chair Cauley Powell called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM and roll call ensued. Vice Chair Molly Ellis arrived at 4:40 PM.

2) Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

a. February 14, 2024 – Regular Meeting

On line 82, it was written that Chair Powell made a statement but it should state that Ms. Carey made the statement. Louise Zerba moved to adopt the February 14 minutes as amended which was promptly seconded by Julie Emineth. The motion passed unanimously.

b. March 13, 2024 – Joint Meeting

On lines 60-61, the minutes read that Chair Powell made a statement but it was Sophia Cunha-Vasconcelos who made the statement. Ms. Zerba moved to adopt the March 13 minutes as amended which was promptly seconded by Marilyn Hutson. The motion carried unanimously.

3) 2022 CLG – Recovering Black History in Keene Project

Mr. Clements stated that the Historical Society would be hosting an event on Friday, April 12 to showcase the project that had been put together. Jenna Carroll reached out to see if someone from the HC would want to introduce the project, to which they decided they would not. The consultant, Dr. Kabria Baumgartner, agreed to stay on the project until August in order to collect the information that the HC gathered.

Ms. Huston described some of her research techniques and findings that she would give to Ms. Carroll. Chair Powell stated that they should also look into the physical documents that are not online. They would meet with Bill Dow at the Clerk's Office for those records.

Chair Powell hoped to arrange a presentation of the project for the HC in order to facilitate a discussion about how they would incorporate the ongoing research and what they could do to meet the grant requirements in terms of public sharing. She stated that there would be a final report submitted to the HC and then, typically, with past grants, a presentation of the findings.

4) 2021 CLG – Italian Neighborhood Project

Mr. Schoefmann presented the website he had been working on for the Italian Neighborhood Project. He had been working on placing videos into the different sub-sections they had setup, such as interviews they had done with the Italian Society. He described the different headers such as Families and Culture, Education and Faith, Agriculture/ Food and Industry, Nature and Recreation, Then and Now, and Crowdsourced Data Collection. Mr. Schoefmann stated he was working on the third section, which was close to completion. He went on to show one of the interviews with John DiBernardo. He explained that there was a lot of great information from the interviews but that it was a challenge to connect the information to an address on the map shown on the website. Mr. Schoefmann would send the website to the committee so they could see what he had done so far. He went through the headers and gave a brief presentation on each section.

5) Staff Updates

Mr. Clements stated he hadn't heard further discussion on merging the HC and HDC but would inform the HC if there were any updates.

Mr. Schoefmann reported that the downtown project was still on track and believed they would break ground in 2026. The Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee had been working on suggested regulations for use of the downtown bike lanes. He stated that there were three different stages of project and focus areas. On May 1 at the Keene Recreation Center, from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM, the consultants would go over some of the design concepts for Central Square. Discussion ensued on the different bike lanes in Keene.

6) New Business

None presented.

7) **Next Meeting – May 8, 2024**

The next meeting would be held on May 8, 2024 at 4:30 PM.

8) **Adjourn**

There being no further business, Chair Powell adjourned the meeting at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Melissa Danneker, Minute Taker

Reviewed and edited by,
Evan J. Clements, AICP
Planner