

Minutes of the Heritage Committee  
June 15, 2010 – Town Hall – 7 p.m.

Members present: Jack Quinn, William Hansen, Janet Banks, Arnie Magid, Chet Kuras,  
Ray Wilcox, Roger Ives, Absent: Mark Winne, William Moncrief  
Guest: Mr. Ron Clark

Chairman Hansen called the meeting to order.

Citizen Comment: Mr. Ron Clark, 729 Mapleton Avenue was present.  
He reviewed three maps and other documents in much detail. He is very much concerned with the sale of 20 acres of the old Roesburg farm. He is concerned about the lack of historical preservation, the possible mis-use of developers who would buy the land for development. He presented a detailed history of the property. He noted and reviewed presented his recommendations about how property should be developed in th best interest of the Town. Mr. Hansen thanked Mr. Clark for his concerns and comments, and that the Heritage Committee will take his presentation, and documentation under advisement.

Minutes: Mr. Quinn moved to approve the minutes of the May 11 meeting; Janet Banks seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Commercial subcommittee –The HC discussed the following:

HC needs to discuss and refocus its efforts. What does the First Selectman and the Board wish us to do? We need new goals and new objectives.

Mr. Hansen asked if the Historic District changed the windows to 12 over 12, as recommended by the Design Review Board at 82 Main Street. Mr. Quinn stated that he thinks he saw plans that showed the 12 over 12 windows.

Mr. Hansen reviewed the two letters he has drafted. These letters would be sent to prospective sign owners and business owners informing them of the Town Center Village regulations and the process and procedures for approval, including sign regulations and the necessary review by the Design Review Board.

Mr. Quinn discussed the two letters: The HC serves as advisory committee to the BOS. Our concern as a Committee should go from here to the First Selectman. Mr. Quinn stated that the HC should review the two letters; the Committee should write a single document which states the recommendations of the Heritage Committee. J. Banks stated that something should also come from the Design Review Board. Does the DRV speak with the Z&P? It might be a good idea to have the First Selectman attend one of our next meetings. But first we should get together and decide what our focus should be and then seek in put from the First Selectman.

There seems to be a dis-connect between the Zoning and Planning Commission and the Design Review Board. Should not the DRB report to their findings and recommendations regarding a TCVD review to Z & P. The DRB rules on signage among other things. The DRB should have information before the applicant comes in to their meeting, with their sign already designed and ordered. Who is responsible to inform the land owners, renters, business owner of TCV District regulations and of the approval process. Are the DRB regulations going to be enforced? Does the Z & P want to enforce the DRB regulations?

Mr. Hansen left at 8 p.m.

Vice Chairman Quinn then chaired the meeting.

Janet Banks stated that the HC has lost our thrust, its focus, its underlying plan. We all know that Patrick McMahon is moving forward with the “unifying plan”...Will the BOS approve these ideas? Patrick sent emails to HC, regarding the response of those who toured the KML. When we changed our meeting date; it made it impossible for Mr. McMahon to attend our meeting. Mr. Quinn stated that perhaps we should change our meeting date so that the EDC Director can attend. When Patrick came to our meetings, he kept us focused.

Members should think about changing meeting dates. Mr. Quinn will send out an email and seek input about what days would be better so that the Committee could meet at a time that Mr. McMahon could attend.

The Heritage Committee should discuss:

The success of the Heritage Committee in the past.

Are there unfinished parts of past projects?

Can we request that the regulations of the Design Review Board be enforced?

The Design Review Board and the Zoning and Planning Commission should interact with each other. How can this be implemented?

What are the capital projects in the future?

Could the Heritage Committee help with the “unifying plan”?

Should both the First Selectman and the Chairman of the Zoning and Planning meet together with the Heritage Committee?

Does the First Selectman have a project for the Committee to address?

Should the Design Review Board meet with the Zoning and Planning Commission?

Does the Z & P intend to enforce the Town Center Village District regulations?

How can the Heritage Committee help the First Selectman?

The Heritage Committee will not meet in July or August. The Chairman can call a special meeting if necessary.

New Businss: Mr. Wilcox reported the relocation of horses from 1125 Arute property. The Tenant is being evicted; and all belongings of the tenant must be placed in storage by the Town. The Town needed to find a location for the Horses. It was suggested that the horses be placed on the Hilltop Farm open space.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Sec. HC.Minutes.June.15.2010