

**Franklin Heritage Commission
Regular Meeting
August 9, 2007
Franklin Public Library**

Call to Order

Chair Bob Morin called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

In Attendance

Commissioners

Bob Morin, Chair
Bob Sharon, Vice-Chair
Mary Boswell, Secretary
Norman Bushman
Annette Andreozzi, City Council
Representative
Elizabeth Colburn, Alternate
Dave Sinclair, Alternate

Others Present

Commissioners Not Present

Seating of Alternate(s)

Chair Bob Morin noted that the entire Heritage Commission was present and there was no need to seat alternates.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Boswell moved and Norm Bushman seconded acceptance of the regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2007 and the public hearing meeting minutes of July 25, 2007 as corrected. Motion passed by majority vote.

Old Business

Update on 42-44 Franklin Street Property

Chair Bob Morin reported that he received a phone call from Mark Carpenter, contractor for the property, who told him the owner of the property was planning to keep the trim around the windows and the face of the building the same color (black), so Commission approval was not required. Bob Morin invited him to attend another general meeting to update the Commission on the general scheme. Bob Morin is unaware if the work has started.

Review Updated Priorities/Actions for 2007 and Beyond

Activities Chart

The Commission was very impressed with the chart that Marcia Feener had following the July meeting. The members thanked her for her work. The chart is a living document that can be

updated as needed. Mary Boswell suggested adding the Grant Funding Priority to the Regular Meeting in September.

Reviewing the Ordinance

Based on what she has seen at other towns, Elizabeth Colburn feels that Franklin's ordinance needs to be more specific. She will make suggestions at the next meeting. Bob Morin will distribute the current version to all members. Annette Andreozzi noted the difference between the regulations and the ordinance.

Property Purchases within the Historic District

Chair Bob Morin referred to the document about real estate transfer disclosure that Norm Bushman distributed at the regular June meeting. The document came from Cecil County, Maryland and concerns properties in rural areas and limiting use of agricultural equipment. Bob Morin stated that Dick Lewis could notify the Commission of Franklin's real estate actions, and the Commission could distribute a brochure. Elizabeth Colburn said the Commission could distribute a brochure to all Franklin real estate companies. Annette Andreozzi recommended doing both. The Commission agreed to make this an activity for 2008.

New Business

Proposed Revisions to Heritage Commission Page of City's Website

Bob Morin distributed copies of a page from the website, with suggested minor changes: the addition of agendas, minutes, forms and reference documents, and an updated historic district map. Photographs could be changed each month. Mary Boswell suggested using images the students had taken and crediting the students. Historical images should also be used. The most recent approved minutes and agenda for the upcoming meeting could be posted one week in advance of the next meeting. Past documents could be archived on the site. Mary Boswell moved and Annette Andreozzi seconded the authorization of the expenditure of up to \$120 for a yearly fee to Denise Sharlow to update the website on a monthly basis. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Commission encouraged Bob Morin to move forward with the minor changes, with input from the Commission.

Other Business

Central Street Light Campaign

Annette Andreozzi reported that Chuck Farmer set up a fund to support decorative streetlights on Central Street. The new lights will not be a cost to the City. Street lights are not under the Commission's purview. She recommended that the Commission make a decision as to whether or not it wanted to be involved. Chuck Farmer is willing to listen to the Commission's recommendations. Bob Morin will attend the meeting of Municipal Services. He will demonstrate that the Commission wanted to be apprised of the progress. Mary Boswell made a motion, seconded by Norm Bushman, to have the Commission officially express interest in the street lighting project and invite Chuck Farmer to share his ideas at the next meeting. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Dave Sinclair will invite Chuck Farmer to the next Commission meeting.

LEADS Presentation

Bob Morin reported that the next LEADS meeting is on August 16th, at 7 p.m. He met with the Zoning Board. Dick Lewis will make a 40-minute presentation. Bob Morin has begun to prepare handouts and a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation, based on the four principle areas of the Commission's mission: Inventory, Preservation, Protection, Promotion. He encouraged the Commission members to attend this meeting.

Street Signs to Define Entrances to Historic District

Mary Boswell asked that the signs, which the Commission had discussed at past meetings to define the District, be added to the agenda of the next regular meeting. She and Annette Andreozzi will research what work has been done on that project.

Review Heritage Commission Rules of Procedures

Annette Andreozzi distributed and discussed a three-page document entitled Proposed Modifications to Heritage Commission – Rules of Procedure. The Commission agreed that the best solution to ensure that all responsibilities are covered is to give the Chair the authority to delegate as needed. Annette Andreozzi will reword the document as suggested at the meeting and prepare it for the next regular meeting. The Commission gave her the authority to talk to Dick Lewis about what he can do to help regarding the monitoring of changes to the district. The Commission does not have the money in its budget to notify applicants and abutters of hearings.

Adjournment

The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Boswell, Secretary