

Hampton Falls Heritage Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2013

Present: David French, Chair, Beverly Mutrie, Secretary, and Wendy Harrington. Absent: Mary Ann Kasprzak and Georgiana Swain. Guests were Cynthia Wojcicki and Tracy Beattie from the Friends of the Merrill Property.

The meeting commenced at 6:54 pm.

1. Approval of May's minutes: Tracy argued for an additional sentence referencing Mary Dumont's ownership of the land and the possible non-move of the Merrill barn. Discussion ensued. A motion to add an amendment was made by W. Harrington, seconded by D. French and it passed, 2 for to 1 against. Since there was not a quorum of the previous month's attendees, the amended minutes were not approved.
2. Treasurer's Report: \$3252.5 as of April 30.
3. Discussion of how to help rescue the Merrill house and barn: \
 - a. Tracy reported on her attendance at the School Board's retreat on May 14. She asked Robin Ratigan to consider spending \$1K from this year's budget to fix the roof of the Merrill house. A question was asked about the School Board receiving and spending donated funds. There was no definitive answer from Bill Hickey as to whether the School Board can spend funds based upon the negative vote on the warrant articles. Greg Parish brought up the egress situation. A possible housing subdivision behind the house and barn was brought up. Bill Hickey seemed positive when Tracy talked to him on the following Monday.
 - b. The committee would like the School Board to investigate positive solutions to sustaining the Merrill house until the subdivision can be done and the house, with or without the barn, sold. We have given the SB several options on how to accomplish this.
 - c. There was conjecture that the HYA would be interested in putting up a building on the property.
4. The FOMP or the new TEMP Friends will be in attendance on Thursday night at the School board meeting. We have questions for the board.
 - a. What are their conclusions/decisions regarding fixing the house's roof?
 - b. Can we donate funds for that purpose?
 - c. Is an intermunicipal agreement possible?
 - d. Can they find \$1K in this year's budget?
 - e. Ask what is their timeline to subdivide the property?
 - f. Offer to help them with their new goal.
5. D. French brought up the fact that Blue Chip Farm on Drinkwater Road is for sale again. He was approached regarding the historic value of the property and emphatically replied that it was positive. The barn may become a liability and we would like the opportunity to tour the house/barn to take measurements and pictures. D. French will set a tour up with the realtor.
6. The next meeting will be July first at the Town Hall.
7. A motion to adjourn occurred at 8:18 pm by D. French and W. Harrington seconded. All agreed.
8. Submitted by Beverly Mutrie, Secretary.