

Calais Historical Preservation Commission

August 14, 2024 - Calais Town Hall

Zoom only meeting – Attendees: David Schutz; Tobin Anderson; Jarrod Weiss; Ryan Edwards

The meeting was called to order by Tobin Anderson at 7:03pm

1) Approval of minutes of April 2024 meeting. No changes to June minutes, Motion by Larry, seconded by David Schutz. Passed unanimously.

2) Letter of Support for Adamant Community Club grant application. The letter of support is for a grant to aid in mold removal. Tobin motions to accept the letter as written by Larry Bush. Larry will sign the letter on behalf of the Commission and will send to Rick Winston at President of Adamant Community Club. Tobin asked what organization the grant was being requested from, David Schutz informed it was from a state agency - Buildings and General Services. Estimate is around \$6,000. Larry said that the Planning Commission and Kari Bradley have sent letters of support. Tobin motions, Ryan Edwards seconded. Passed unanimously.

3) 2022 CLG Grant - Calais Town Tour. Tobin has recorded his portions and Susannah will be recording on the 17th of August. Tobin is seeking photos to be included with the tour. The goal is to have the project finished by the middle of next month. Tobin asked former Chair David Schutz if he had done his “homework” and gave him an awkward stare via Zoom. The homework was a short blurb about the Kent and what to include in the tour. David was very apologetic and will be getting his write-up to Susannah this week. Tobin asked about specifically calling out properties/homes on the tour and if we have some kind of protocol. David mentioned he didn’t feel as if this would be much of an issue and would suggest that we send out a celebratory message to the town explaining the tour and lauding those who are part of the tour. David offered his home as a beautiful and spectacular example of Greek revival architecture. Tobin will email Susannah and let her know what we have talked about today and of David’s offer of his home for the tour. David discussed how we can write language in the tour to help protect privacy and for talking about this positively in the community. Ryan mentions that Susannah is going to “sprinkle” the language about the homes and being respectful of the property throughout the tour. Ryan also mentioned that John Mc is going to be sketching some homes, but will be keeping the sketches to the period and architectural aspects of the homes, none of the contemporary additions. Larry read an email from Susannah and her asking about the origin of Gospel Hollow, with what her understanding is that it is named after the Christian church in the area. David suggested making the language as such to suggest that the church being in the hollow, this is a very common term for places where churches were in Vermont. Tobin suggested that if we didn’t feel like we had the answer, we could just not mention it. But, it appears that this currently written in the correct manner. Tobin asked for photos by Monday or Tuesday next week (August 19-20). Ryan talked about the photos that he can provide, some of the current East Calais

General Store. David mentioned how we want to make sure to have historical and contemporary photos. Ryan talked about his new secret weapon to find historic photos - eBay, where finding historical postcards has proved successful. Ryan will make a Google drive for everyone to drop photos in. David asked if Tobin wanted to ensure payments to individuals within the month. Tobin checked and the final deadline is September 30, 2024, so payment to individuals won't need to be paid until close to the date.

3) Curtis Pond Dam Update: David mentioned that the project is well underway, coffer dam is in place, and work may be completed by some point in October. Tobin mentioned that we are going to wait until the project is complete to talk about possible partnerships with regards to future assistance with historical interpretive panels, or other items for possible grants. The HPC will wait until completion of the project.

4) Friends of Calais Town Hall: David discussed future possible projects with town hall, including the state's energy audit and future projects with needs for Town Hall. Future conversations at upcoming HPC meetings about organizational needs and other needs for Town Hall, having conversations with Friends of Town Hall and possible grants for projects based on our needs.

5) New Business: Larry had a question about the Maple Corner Historic District registration and the mishap with a deadline. David mentioned that we still have little answers, but he is going to reach out to the Office of State Historic Preservation Officer, Laura Trieschmann.

Larry motioned to close the meeting, Ryan seconded. Adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:41 pm.