

Calais Historical Preservation Commission

November 13, 2024 - Calais Town Hall

Attendees: David Schutz; Tobin Anderson; Jarrod Weiss; Larry Bush; Susannah Blachly (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order by Tobin Anderson at 7:0pm

- 1) Changes to agenda. Tobin suggested a new agenda item #5 - the Town Report.
- 2) Approval of minutes of October 9, 2024 meeting. David S.. moved, Larry B. seconded. No changes. Unanimously approved.
- 3) Town History Tour Project. Tobin did not have an update from the website designer. Susannah explained the drawings were completed by John McCullough and annotated by Ryan Edwards. Tobin discussed paying Stacy in December for website design and work. There is a deadline in December from the Division of Historic Preservation for payments of grant monies. David S. asked if the payment for website work would balance out the CLG grant and Tobin confirmed. Susannah asked what the exact deadline in December is, but will check and get the final date. If we need to put a placeholder for the architecture work on the website, we can do that, and then update as needed. Tobin thanks Susannah for all the hard work and hours on this project, Susannah thanked Tobin. David gave them both a big shout out for their work. David then asked how we want to talk about the “roll out” for the tour in the future. We have no deadline for how we launch the tour and there was a discussion about waiting until the weather improves in the spring when we can have a large event with much grandeur and fanfare. Tobin discussed having the launch event in May and Jarrod mentioned having a table at Town Meeting to have information and play small clips for people as well as having someone say something at Town Meeting. There was a good discussion about ideas for the launch and how to build excitement before the launch. David mentioned the idea of getting other groups in the town involved and having them be part of the launch. There was discussion of using The Kent, the first stop on the tour, as the place for the launch. Tobin mentioned the idea of inviting people from the Division to the launch. Larry talked about having the HPC do a “run through” of the tour in the winter so we can adequately help people with the tour. The group also talked about using Front Porch Forum for being excited and Jarrod mentioned the idea of using a “Did You Know?” series in FPF over the months to help get people excited about the tour.
- 4) Maple Corner National Register Historic District. David gave an update on his conversation with Chris Miller and how this process unfolded in the community. David believes we can continue our conversations with the Maple Corner community members and move forward with the process. Once the application has been reviewed at the Division of Historic Preservation we can discuss with them how to move forward. Susannah wanted to ensure that we talk to Brian Knight about his future work on reworking the application and David will reach out to him.

Tobin mentioned talking about how we want to pay Brian going forward. Action: David is calling Brian Knight.

5) Future CLG Grant. Should we consider a future CLG grant for the funds to pay Brian for his work on this future rework on the application for Maple Corner Historic District. Another idea would be a grant for something related to the school, including a children's version of the Town Tour. Jarrod will come up with a proposal from the Calais School about a possible Calais History/Civics/Architecture curriculum that could be submitted for a grant. Tobin will ask Laura at Historic Preservation about grant deadlines. Another possible project is the dismantling of the Moscow Woods Dam and an interpretive panel to preserve the history of the dam. David mentioned the project and the idea that the panels could extend to the other dams along the East Calais area. The consensus in the group was to move forward with the Calais School curriculum project and Jarrod will start the process. The deadline is December 16th.

6) Town Report 2024. Tobin will begin writing a draft, including the Town Tour and our other events in the year. Action: Tobin actually has to write it and send us a draft for review. Deadline for completion is December 15th.

7) Larry brought up the idea of possibly starting meetings at 6pm and there seemed support for doing so.

8) David moved to adjourned. Larry seconded. Unanimous approval. Meeting closed at 8:07pm.