

Somersworth Historic District Commission
Education and Outreach Sub-Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 8th, 2018

Attendance:

Richard Brooks, Sub-Committee Chair
Pius Charles Murray
George Poulin
Matthew Gerding
Laura Barry

Call To Order:

At 6:07pm by Mr. Brooks

Mr. Brooks started the meeting by beginning a discussion about the HDC slides that are on rotation on channel 22. Explained that it was time to update the slides, and proposed options. It was explained that though we'd like to show historic homes in the city, we cannot show a single home on channel 22 without homeowner permission. With this in mind Mr. Brooks proposed doing 3-4 slides on the historic federal style mill worker row houses. One slide would describe what constitutes federal style homes, one slide would discuss the importance of the row houses, and then another slide would show pictures/examples of these homes. Pictures of Elm Street homes would be taken from the electronic copies of the Historic District Resource Forms that the city has, with permission from the city. Mr. Murray and Mr. Poulin discussed sharing any information of historical importance about any of the homes, such as notable residents.

Because we would also like to have homeowners provide us permission to use photos of their homes for the slides, we discussed how to gain permission. It was decided that a slide would be generated to run on channel 22 that asks for homeowner permission, and explains that homeowners may email Tracey granting permission. Also, it was discussed that the sub-committee should reach out to the city staff and find out whether the HDC could have a banner or slide that runs on the homepage of the city's website.

After discussing the new slides, Mr. Brooks directed the sub-committee to discussing the matrix of tasks. This matrix included the following tasks that were briefly discussed:

- i. Website:
 - a. It was discussed that the city is nearing its release of the new city homepage. Commissions and Boards should be receiving more

- information about their own pages after the homepage is released.
Pending city timetables.
- ii. Ed/Outreach Meetings
 - a. Discussed using the banner on the city's homepage to get more information out to residents about meeting times, hopefully to encourage the public to attend the ED/Outreach subcommittee meeting and ask questions. Also discussed using other locations in the city such as schools or restaurants. It was also discussed reaching out the Mayor to see if we could partner with him on his coffee Saturdays. Pending discussion with Mayor Hilliard.
 - iii. Signage
 - a. Way-finding signs may be coming soon to the city. Would like to further partner on this with the city. Also discussed creating street signs that are specific to the areas of the city within the HDC. Mr. Poulin suggested we mimic the old black and white wooden street signs that were once used in the city – as seen on Beacon St.
 - iv. Videos
 - a. Discussed the possibility of taking video tours and selling and/or giving away these videos to residents.
 - v. Historical Markers
 - a. Discussed partnering with other interested members in the city to come to consensus about which historical location we should propose for our first Historic State Highway Marker. There may be other members of the community looking into this project as well, and they should be co-opted on this project. Important to get city involved as project moves forward. Decided that we would need to wait until the 2019 round of submissions to maximize our chances of getting the project fully funded - only 10 highway markers are fully funded a year, first come first serve.
 - vi. Tours
 - a. Short discussion about partnering with a community partner, organization, or event.
 - vii. Social Media
 - a. No new information available
 - viii. HDC Handout Packet
 - a. Handouts may be in progress – need to check in with city staff about completion.

After discussing the matrix, Mrs. Barry introduced a discussion about the new, in-progress HDC ordinances. Edits had been returned to the HDC from city staff. The sub-committee had a lengthy discussion on the possible edits that should be made to prepare for a second draft of the ordinances.

Motion for Adjournment: Mr. Murray
Seconded: Mrs. Barry at 7:50pm