



## Historic Sites Committee

(a work committee of the Hyde Park Planning Commission)

### MINUTES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

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Present: Jim Heath, Kevin Fitzgerald, Monica Heath, Duncan Tingle  
Absent: None  
Guests: None  
Staff: Ron Rodjenski

1. Welcome
2. Repairs to Grange.
  - a. Chimney – Ron reported that one mason responded to a request for an estimate, but they are booked until mid-January. A second mason agreed to visit the site, but has not yet provided a cost estimate or availability. Funds available are \$2,700 through June 30, 2016.
  - b. Roof – The mason will likely need a lift so it is hoped that the minor roof repair could be done with the mason's work.
  - c. Basement – Kevin noted that the basement air gaps at windows and door should be sealed but were a less priority than the roof and chimney.
3. UVM Students – Community Mapping Project – Ron reported that the professor offering a Spring 2016 class project on community mapping was waiting to hear if Hyde Park can be added to their list for Vermont towns interested in working with UVM. The committee felt that this was an excellent chance to capture community information and personal histories. Ron will contact UVM and have them add Hyde Park to the student's options, noting that we have a wealth of existing information to build upon and a committee that is ready to assist in whatever way they need. Duncan noted that persons in town that would be good resources are Gordon Powers, Gary Anderson, Melvin Harvey and, of course, Duncan. Duncan noted that the Village Improvement Association has a set of minutes that students can review in addition to other historic resources at the town library. Ron noted that mapsalive.com is one GIS option for recording town history. Duncan noted that Erin Carr, working with students from Hyde Park Elementary School, led a history project a couple of years ago that should be provided to the UVM students.
4. UVM Interns for Summer Inventory & Web-based Inventory Tool – Kevin reported that the two towns working on the beta are still due to complete that work in the spring.
5. Hyde Park Historic Barns Submittals – The public outreach request only produced one old barn submittal – the Joneslan Farm barns. Duncan noted that the barns and property were once used for hop production and with craft breweries being popular now, that location could be a stop on a future "beer tour" around the county. The committee agreed that developing the reuse for historic properties was important before major renovation and preservation work.
6. Certified Local Government – Ron reported that the Selectboard has this topic on their November 12<sup>th</sup> agenda, which resulted from a recommendation to pursue CLG designation from both this committee and the Town Planning Commission.
7. Grange Drape – Ron made contact with Christine Hadsel from the non-profit organization "Curtains Without Borders". Chris led the 2003 drape restoration at the Grange and wanted to meet with the

committee to share her history with both “Grand Drapes” – one at the Grange and one at the Hyde Park Opera House. Chris has also published a new book (June 2015) about historic curtains that are located throughout the United States. The new book includes photos of both of Hyde Park’s curtains. A written report is available on the 2003 project and Ron will obtain a copy for storage in the town clerk’s office. Chris is tentatively scheduled to come to the December meeting, but only if the weather is above 32 degrees so that the meeting can be at the Grange to handle the grand drape.

8. Holiday Wreath – Judy Clark, from the Hyde Park Community Circle, called and offered one large wreath to be lighted and displayed in North Hyde Park. Jim and Ron agreed to work with the Judy to display the wreath on the Grange.
9. Minutes – Motion by Duncan to approve the October 6, 2015 minutes, seconded by Monica. Discussion: Jim confirmed that \$2,700 was the amount available with a preliminary repair cost for the chimney, roof and misc basement sealing work of around \$5,000 and Kevin confirmed those amounts. Jim asked about the tree that damaged the roof and Ron will ask the town tree warden if that is something that can be inspected to see if the entire tree should be removed as a hazard tree. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Ron will bring copies of any unapproved committee minutes to the December meeting.
10. Adjourn – Adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 5:00 PM