



State of Vermont
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1 National Life Drive, Floor 6
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

DRAFT
Subject to Council Approval

Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
March 22, 2018
Calvin Coolidge Conference Room, National Life Davis Building, 6th Floor
Montpelier, Vermont

Council Participants: John Vetter, Chair, Archaeologist
Edward Clark, Citizen Member
Britta Tonn, Architectural Historian
Paul Wyncoop, Citizen Member
Blaine Cliver, Historical Architect
David Donath, Historian (arrived at 10:15)

Absent: Joseph Luneau, Citizen Member

Historic Preservation Staff Participants: Laura V. Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer
Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian
Caitlin Corkins, Tax Credits and Grants Coordinator
Jenni Lavoie, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Judith Ehrlich, VTrans
Jen Russell, VTrans
Brennan Gauthier, VTrans
Kyle Obenauer, VTrans
Chris Slesar, VTrans
Andrea Wright, VTrans
Austin White, UVM Student

Chair John Vetter brought the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

I. Introduction with New Council Members

Council members introduced themselves and welcomed new council member Britta Tonn, who was appointed by Governor Scott as architectural historian; this seat was previously held by Glenn Andres.

II. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. Public Comment

John Vetter opened the meeting to public comment. There were no public comments.



IV. Review / Approve February 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Paul Wyncoop made a motion to approve the February 23, 2018, minutes with no edits, and Edward Clark seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

V. VTrans – Annual Report

The VTrans Cultural Resource Team provided the Council with a status update and review of their annual report. Council members had opportunities to comment on the annual report and ask questions of the Cultural Resource Team. Following up on council recommendations from the year prior, members inquired about the circulation of the report. The VTrans team indicated that the report has not been circulated; they are in communications with management to determine the most appropriate avenues for dissemination.

VI. VTrans – National Register Determination of Eligibility

Vergennes Depot

Judith Ehrlich, prior to the meeting, provided council members with information regarding the Vergennes Depot. As a result of a 2001 VTrans project that resulted in the Vergennes Depot being moved, mitigation required an evaluation of National Register of Historic Places eligibility at the new location. The VTrans consultant prepared an eligibility evaluation recommending the building retains sufficient integrity for eligibility under Criterion C (architecture) and Criterion Consideration B (moved properties). VTrans agreed with the recommendation and sought the council's concurrence; this will enable the nomination package to be prepared as required by the National Register. Council members commented that moving a depot such as this is not unusual for the ongoing use of a building. David Donath made a motion to recommend moving forward with the nomination of the depot, Edward Clark seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

VII. Annual Meeting

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Blaine Cliver made a motion to nominate John Vetter as chair; Paul Wyncoop seconded. Blaine Cliver made a motion to nominate Edward Clark as vice chair; Paul Wyncoop seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Historic Preservation and Barn Grant Scoring Debrief

Caitlin Corkins led a discussion with council members on the recent review and scoring process for the Historic Preservation and Barn Preservation Grant programs. With recent changes to the scoring criteria, council members had an opportunity to comment on the scoring changes and provide feedback to improve the process in the future. Council discussion involved review of projects that propose work that does not follow the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* and whether those applications should be excluded from consideration or whether grants could be made with conditions to ensure projects do meet the *Standards*. Members discussed if excluding those projects not meeting the Standards from the award process or if there this presented an opportunity to educate applicants on appropriate preservation methods during the application review process; the latter was favored. The council recommended staff provide additional guidance to applicants for hiring a consultant to assist with project development.

IX. State Architectural Historian Report

Devin Colman informed council members that on February 20, 2018, the National Register of Historic Places approved the Montpelier Historic District additional documentation and boundary increase requests. He also advised he would be giving two lectures of interest in the coming months, Architect David Fried, a former Vermont State Parks architect, at the next meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum – New England Chapter in Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA, on March



24, 2018. Also, Nichols Powers, who designed the Brown Bridge in Clarendon, VT, along with several other bridges around New England, on April 14.

X. State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Report

Laura Trieschmann advised council members that the Federal Historic Preservation Fund 2016 Final Report was found to be in compliance and was closed out but is awaiting written confirmation. The interim reporting for the 2017 grant also was found to be in compliance and is awaiting written confirmation. The contracts for the Certified Local Government Grants (CLG), which the council reviewed in January, have all been sent out, with most executed, and projects are commencing to commence. Two large projects utilizing the Federal Historic Tax Credits are moving along. Construction at French Block in Montpelier is underway and the part 2 challenges at Woolson Block in Springfield have been addressed for what looks like a successful preservation project. Legislative updates included proposed increases in the capital bill appropriations to the State Historic Sites major maintenance budget as well as an increase to the Roadside Historic Marker program, and federal historic preservation fund increases from Congress. The Programmatic Agreement (PA) with VTrans are still underway; the draft of the PA was forwarded to the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in February. Laura is currently working with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) on updating the HOME PA; a PA with FEMA and Vermont Emergency Management was currently finalized and will be sent around for signatures soon.

XI. New Business

Meeting Schedule:

April 19, 2018

May 24, 2018 at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes

June No Meeting - June 8 Historic Preservation and Downtown Conference, Bristol

July 26, 2018

August – No meeting

XII. Adjourned at 12:10 p.m.