

CITY OF DOVER

HERITAGE COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Special Meeting
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 306, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: June 20, 2025
Meeting Time: 10:30 a.m.

Present: Jeff Spires (Chair), Jan Nedelka (Vice Chair), Tony McManus, Tony Retrosi, Jon Nichols

Absent (excused): Ethan Healey

Staff: Christopher Parker (Deputy City Manager), Paul Crouser (Planning), Patty Falconer (Library)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 10:30 am

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Motion by Nedelka to accept minutes from August 2, 2024 meeting. Second by McManus.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

None

4. CITIZEN FORUM

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

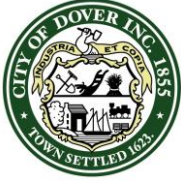
Review of the General Sullivan Bridge Commemorative Panels – Parker explains that in 2021, the City of Dover and the Department of Transportation entered into a memorandum of Agreement stating that interpretative panels would be displayed at Hilton Park. The four panels to be fabricated and installed are #1 Ferries, Trains, and Automobiles Across the Little Bay, #2 Visualizing Routes Through Time, #3 Bringing Continuous Trusses to the American Highway, and #4 Fay, Spofford, and Thorndike's Continuous Truss Highway Bridges. The Woodman Museum will receive Panels #3 and #4 along with a bridge component. After review and discussion of the panels, the Commission made the request to incorporate these comments into revisions to the panels:

Panel 1:

- How many ferry companies operated? A couple? Many?
- Note that gundalows were able to travel under the Portsmouth-Dover Railroad bridge by lowering their masts
- Perhaps a note that none of the houses pictured remain, or a date of their tear-down if known?

• Panel 2:

- Consider dropping 1941 map blow-out
- 'over more than two centuries' should be 'three centuries.'
- Consider adding years to each marked bridge
- Pomeroy Cove should be clearly marked; perhaps with dashed outline to denote original scope
- General Sullivan and Griffin/Rowe bridges are not distinguished from one another on map. Could cause confusion. No mention of the Jonathon Rowe Bridge. as intermediary.
- Why is the Scammell bridge marked removed in 1998 when it's still there? Either communicate the bridge was rebuilt but retained the name, perhaps 'Original Scammell Bridge' for name?
- Was bridge once the Karkavelas bridge?



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- Panel 3:
 - Include a (FS&T) after first mention of Fay, Spofford, and Thorndike in main text block
- Panel 4:
 - “In 1984, the General Sullivan bridge ceased carrying vehicle traffic and was used for recreation by pedestrians, cyclists, and anglers. In 2015 it was closed off completely due to safety concerns from deterioration.”
 - Cape Cod canal bridges: “Planning to replace both Cape Cod Canal bridges began in 2019.”
 - When available, update to include the dates for the General Sullivan Bridge

6. UPDATES FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Crouser reports that a grant for the preservation of the Lowell Ave. Water Works was recently submitted.

MATTERS OF CONCERN TO MEMBERS

None

7. ADJOURN

*Motion by Nedelka to adjourn. Second by McManus. Motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.*