

WILLIAM B. PINNEY
DIRECTOR



STATE OF VERMONT
AGENCY OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
HISTORIC SITES DIVISION
MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05602
(802) 828-3226

Minutes of Vermont State Advisory
Council on Historic Preservation

Date: May 6, 1974

Place: Fourth Floor Conference Room
Pavilion Building
Montpelier, Vermont

Present: Arthur Healy
Nicholas Muller
John Duffy
Robert Burley
Joseph Popecki
William Pinney
Chester Liebs

Absent: William Haviland

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as written.

Bill Pinney expressed the need for the chairmanship of the Council to be assumed by a non-government member. A discussion followed which outlined some of the chairman's duties including: preside at meetings, coordinate activities of Council, provide legal and public testimony where appropriate, and serve as general Council spokesman. Healy moved and Duffy seconded the nomination of Robert Burley for chairman. Burley was elected unanimously. For continuity Burley appointed Pinney chairman for this meeting.

The Council discussed the adoption of by-laws and asked the Division to present several examples at the next meeting.

Pinney explained the need to remove from the State Register the Robinson Schoolhouse on Mill Hill in Northfield to allow its demolition and enable the Vermont Highway Department to save the environments of two adjacent farm properties. Liebs made the point of the original validity of the registration of the property an extremely early schoolhouse site, for it was likely to yield significant structural and archeological information.

He further stated that based on priorities of preserving two more intact sites that deregistration is recommended. Popecki moved, Duffy seconded and the Council approved deregistration of the Robinson Schoolhouse. Healy suggested that the community be urged to mark the site.

Nomination of the "Capital Complex" as a National Register district was discussed. It was the general consensus that while all major historic resource components must be specified in the nomination, that the complex must be viewed as a growing entity able to absorb compatible new construction. Pinney moved and Duffy seconded that the "Capital Complex" be submitted to the National Register along with a copy of the complex master plan. The motion was carried. Burley abstained.

The process of review of National Register grant applications by the Council began with an overview of applications by Liebs. Council action on grant requests was as follows:

Morgan Horse Farm - Duffy moved and Burley seconded that the grant be denied. The motion was carried with Muller abstaining. Reasons: Insufficient private fiscal component to carry out project contemplated. Lack of overall program for site; specified project more related to proper maintenance.

Barre Opera House - Duffy moved and Muller seconded that up to \$5,000 be authorized for a matching grant to the Barre Opera House for development of architectural drawings and schematics which will form the basis for restoration work. It was stipulated that the architect do the work for a fee based on his estimated project cost rather than actual project cost. The motion was unanimously carried.

Ripton Community House - Muller moved and Burley seconded that the project be granted the full \$9,000 requested. The motion was unanimously approved.

Park-McCullough House - Healy moved and Burley Seconded that the full \$5,000 grant requested be awarded. The motion was carried unanimously.

American Precision Museum - Muller moved and Duffy seconded that up to \$6,000 be authorized for necessary stabilization work on the structure. The motion was carried. Burley abstained.

Grasse Mount - Duffy moved and Popecki seconded that \$7,500 be granted to UVM to help fund the first half of Phase II of the exterior restoration of Grasse Mount. It was further moved that this should not be construed by the University as assuming automatic funding for the second half of Phase II in FY-1975 and that UVM would have to reapply for that project. The motion was carried with Muller abstaining.

Grant Summary

Application

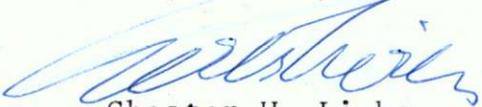
Council Action

Morgan Horse Farm	Denied
Barre Opera House	up to \$ 5,000
Ripton Community House	9,000
Park-McCullough House	5,000
American Precision's Museum	up to 6,000
Grasse Mount	7,500
Grant Total	<u>\$32,500</u>
Project Total (grant x 2)	\$65,000

Arthur Healy volunteered to prepare a draft of a news release to announce the grant awards.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, June 18th at 2:00 p.m. at St. Michael's College Library in Winooski. Dinner will follow at the home of Joseph Popecki.

Respectfully submitted,


Chester H. Liebs

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Minutes of Vermont State Advisory
Council on Historic Preservation

DATE: June 18, 1974

PLACE: St. Michael's College
Winooski, Vermont

PRESENT: Robert Burley
John Duffy
Arthur Healy
Nicholas Muller
Joseph Popecki
Chester Liebs
William Pinney
William Haviland

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

The Council made it a point of policy that when stationery bearing the official letterhead is used, a copy of the letter be sent to both the Chairman and the Division.

Muller moved, Healy seconded and the Council unanimously ratified the approval of the Forestdale Iron Furnace, Brandon, and the Jeffrey House, Chester for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Council reviewed the proposed list of sites eligible for the National Register. Muller moved, Duffy seconded and the Council unanimously passed a resolution to accept the list in its entirety as "eligibles" to be reviewed in further detail when individual sites are nominated. The Council further noted that there are many eligible sites in Addison County not yet recorded in the Historic Resources Inventory and that all distribution copies of the list must emphasize that the data is not complete.

Pinney briefed the staff on the critical problems of Division reorganization and how the inability of the Division to hire professional staff is jeopardizing Vermont's historic preservation program and endangering its status to receive up to one million dollars a year in federal grants. Popecki moved, Muller seconded and the Council unanimously carried a motion to authorize Chairman Burley to meet with Administration Secretary, Robert Wilson, to take steps to immediately remedy the situation. It was noted that without immediate administration action, a serious crisis will develop where monies will be refused and vital public services curtailed.

Muller moved, Duffy seconded and the Council unanimously carried a motion requesting William Pinney to write a letter to the Chairman of the Vermont State Colleges stating the Council's view of the State's obligation to preserve and maintain National Register sites for the public benefit (an Attorney General's opinion, issued after the meeting, found Burklyn's sale by the State to be illegal).

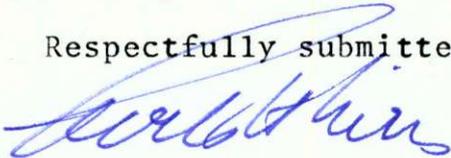
The Council requested the Division to submit sample by-laws from other states at the next meeting.

The Highway Department's request for maps locating all historic resources including archeological sites in the Route 7 corridor was discussed. The Council felt that these maps were acceptable for preliminary planning but under no circumstances should they be construed by the Highway Department as representing all sites or giving blanket approval for any proposed highway line which avoids all sites thus far recorded.

Haviland moved, Muller seconded and the Council unanimously resolved that the Information and Travel Division of Development and Community Affairs be condemned for the irresponsible publicity release which urged the destruction of archeological resources, that a full retraction be demanded and that all future releases pertaining to historic resources be cleared by the Division.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.; the next meeting date was left open.

Respectfully submitted,



Chester H. Liebs