

Minutes of the Public Hearing May 12, 2015

Members present: Jim Andersen, Chairman and Bryant Scott

In attendance: Liz Evans, representing the Historical Society, Bertha Huckins, Lester Huckins, and George Kitz

The public hearing commenced at 6:21PM.

Notice of this hearing was published in *Foster's Daily Democrat* on May 2, 2015. Notice was also posted at the Town Hall and Post Office.

Jim addressed those gathered, stating the purpose of the Public Hearing was to review the following applications for discretionary preservation easements under NH RSA 79-D.

George and Catherine Kitz are applying for the renewal of preservation easement for a 3000 square foot historic barn and a new application for preservation easement for a 2000 square foot barn located on Tax Map 10, Lot 13.

Lester and Bertha Huckins are applying for the renewal of preservation easement for a historic barn located on Tax Map 11, Lot 4.

Liz spoke briefly about the history and purpose of the barn easement program as well as the criteria for being considered for preservation easement. She pointed out that both barns are historically significant. The Kitz barns meet the criteria of being visible to the general public; Parker Mountain also affords an excellent view of both the Kitz and Huckins barns as well as the surrounding fields. All 3 barns have been and/or continue to be used for agricultural purposes. George added that the program gives a tax incentive to barn owners which helps offset the expense of maintaining them, without an accompanying increase in valuation due to maintenance. The easements are granted for 10 years and are subject to some conditions. There is an option for renewal at the end of the 10 years; 2 of the 3 barns under consideration are renewals.

With no further questions or discussion the Selectmen closed the public hearing, electing to discuss this further at their next meeting when all 3 Selectmen are in attendance.

The public hearing ended at 6:30