



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

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STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Draft)
January 13, 2021

Members Present

Ms. Donna Alqassar
Dr. Marisa Brown
Dr. Timothy Ives
Mr. J. Paul Loether
Ms. Elizabeth Rochefort
Mr. Clark Schoettle
Ms. Sarah Zurier

Members Absent

None

Staff Present

None

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by RIHPHC Executive Director J. Paul Loether.

2. Meeting procedures overview

Mr. Loether noted that, as the meeting was being conducted electronically, a poll of members present was necessary, and that in the absence of full consensus on any issues, Committee members opinions would be confirmed by polling.

3. Roll call

Mr. Loether called the names of individual member of the Committee; those present responded in the affirmative, and Mr. Loether determined that, as all members of the Committee were present, a quorum existed.

4. For Approval: Minutes of the October 14, 2020, December 9, 2020, and December 16, 2020 Meetings

Upon motion by Mr. Schoettle with second by Mr. Ives, the Minutes of the Committee's Meetings noted above were all approved as submitted.

5. Review of draft of Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan

Mr. Loether noted briefly that the draft State Historic Plan, as previously reviewed by the Committee and since endorsed by the Commissioners and finalized by staff, has been incorporated in its entirety as part of the third draft of the RIHPC Strategic Plan.

6. For discussion and approval: Revised (3rd) Draft of RIHPC Strategic Plan 2021-2027

Mr. Loether thanked the members of the Committee for the suggestions they had submitted prior to the meeting regarding changes recommending in order to finalize the plan based on the third draft. He noted the suggestions already incorporated into the draft under their review today. He also noted that the formatting and length of the revised draft are essentially modeled after the Department of Environmental Management's current Strategic Plan, a copy of which was provided several months ago by Ms. Zurier.

A general discussion of some potential additional changes to incorporate into the Plan prior to submitting it to the full Commission for adoption followed.

All members agreed that as there is sufficient space available, some appropriate photographs should be included in the final version of the 2-page version of the plan.

Members were not all in agreement with the suggestion that a provision be added to the draft Plan for diversity training for both Commissioners and RIHPC staff. As part of this discussion, it was noted that diversity training for staff is already a general requirement for all state employees, and that diversity training for Commissioners is in the process of being incorporated into a new Commissioner training module required by the provisions of Section 42-45-5(a)(16) of the Rhode Island General Laws.

Since consensus could not be reached among the Committee members on including a diversity training element in the Strategic Plan, Committee members were individually polled as to their opinion in this regard; this resulted in a 4-3 decision not to include.

The Committee then unanimously agreed to forward to the Commissioners for review and adoption, the third draft of the Plan as modified and edited based on the discussions at this meeting.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.