TOWN OF STOWE, VERMONT

Ordinance for Establishment of a Historic Preservation Commission

Whereas, the Town of Stowe contains historic sites, structures and districts of local, statewide and national significance and the Board of Selectmen has determined that a Historic Preservation Commission would be beneficial to the cultural enrichment and general well-being of the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to authority granted them by Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated, and Section 203 of the Town of Stowe Charter, the Selectmen of the Town of Stowe hereby ordain and enacts this Ordinance for Establishment of a Historic Preservation Commission as follows:

1. The Town of Stowe has agreed to enforce within its jurisdiction, the provisions of the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act (24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 Section 4407 (15), the Vermont Historic Preservation Act (22 V.S.A. Chapter 14) and any other state or local legislation which maybe enacted for the designation and protection of historic properties.

2. The Town of Stowe hereby establishes a Historic Preservation Commission of not less than five nor more than nine members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The structure and responsibility of the Commission shall be as follows:

   A. The Commission shall be composed of professional and lay members, a majority of whom reside within the jurisdiction of the Town of Stowe.

   B. All member of the Commission shall have a demonstrated interest, competence in or knowledge of historic preservation.

   C. To the extent available within the jurisdiction of the Town of Stowe, a majority of the members shall be professionals from the disciplines of history, architectural history, archaeology, architecture and historical architecture who meet the requirements outlined in Appendix A of the "Regulations for the Vermont Certified Local Government Program". Members representing other historic preservation related disciplines, such as urban planning, American history, cultural geography, cultural anthropology and lay members are encouraged. When a discipline is not represented on the Commission, the Commission shall seek the assistance of the Division for Historic Preservation, in obtaining the necessary expertise when considering National Register nominations and other actions that will impact properties which are normally evaluated by a professional in such discipline.
D. All activities of the Commission shall be in accordance with the terms of the Vermont Open Meeting Law (1 V.S.A. Chapter 5, Subchapter 3), and the Commission shall take additional steps as it deems appropriate to stimulate public participation in Commission activities, such as, publishing its minutes, publishing the procedures by which assessments of potential National Register nominations will be carried out or using public service announcements to publicize Commission activities.

E. The Commission shall meet no less than four times each year, and maintain an attendance rule for Commission members.

F. The Commission shall have written rules of procedure, including conflict of interest provisions in compliance with the National Register Program Guidelines.

G. The Commission shall have the following responsibilities to be carried out in coordination with and in accordance with format and standards established by the Division for Historic Preservation:

(1) Creation and maintenance of a system for the survey and inventory of historic properties within the jurisdiction that is coordinated with the "Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey and the Vermont Archaeological Inventory."

(2) The Commission will prepare a report of properties within its jurisdiction which are under consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The report will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for submission to the Division for Historic Preservation. The report shall be prepared in cooperation with the Division for Historic Preservation and shall be prepared in a manner consistent with the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act, as described in the "Regulations for the Vermont Certified Local Government Program (CLG)", Chapter 5, Section 501(a)2(F)(2).

(3) When determined to be appropriate at the discretion of the Commission, preparation and submission for approval by the Board of Selectmen, of grant applications to the Division for Historic Preservation for funding from the CLG allocation of the state's annual Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant award.

(4) Advising and assisting the Board of Selectmen, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment/Development Review Board and other appropriate persons or matters related to historic preservation.

(5) Performance of additional responsibilities in accordance with a mutual written agreement between the Division for Historic Preservation and the Board of Selectmen.
This Ordinance is approved and adopted on this the 27th day of March, 2000; to be effective on June 1, 2000.

ATTEST: The STOWE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

[Signatures of the selectmen]

Steven N. Riley, Chairman
Richard C. Marron, Vice-Chairman
Theodore J. Trenhol, Selectman
Charles T. Lusk, Selectman
Peter J. Beck, Selectman

UNDER SEAL OF THE TOWN, received and recorded on this the 25th day of April at 8:05 A.M. 2000, by:

Office of the Town Clerk

ENACTMENT HISTORY:
Publication Date: 3/9/00
First Reading: 3/15/00
Second Reading: 3/27/00
Public Hearing: 3/27/00
Final Passage: 3/27/00