



## **Minutes of the Historical Commission Deerfield, MA.**

Town Offices  
 April 21, 2009

Members present: Henrietta Kocot, Chair  
 Matt Jakutowicz, Clerk  
 Helen Petrovic  
 Bud Driver  
 Pat Karkut  
 Edie Lipp

Absent: Jack Cavacco

The meeting was called to order by Henrietta Kocot at 6:45 P.M. Clerk Matt Jakutowicz read the minutes of the March meeting. A motion was made by Helen Petrovic and seconded by Henrietta Kocot to remove from the March minutes two lines that described the process rather than the content of the discussion. The motion was carried.

The Chair then introduced new Historical Commission members, Pat Karkut of 58 South Mill River Road and Edie Lipp of 98 North Main Street.

Old business began with a discussion of the role of the Deerfield Historical Commission in relation to the Town's Community Preservation Committee (CPA). For the Historical Commission's May meeting, Tom Scalon, Town Accountant, will be asked to clarify Historical Commission funding as it relates to CPA monies. Additional discussion is needed about whether an Historical Commission representative should be a regular member of the Community Preservation Committee. Does such dual membership constitute a conflict of interest?

Because the roles of the Historical Commission and the Community Preservation Committee (CPA) need clarification, a motion was made by Henrietta Kocot and seconded by Helen Petrovic to rescind the Historical Commission's support of funding for improvement of the Tilton Library while the Commission seeks the jurisdictional clarification it needs. The motion was carried unanimously. The members of the Historical Commission expressed great support for the Tilton Library.

Next old business concerned the initiative to inventory and document town monuments and cemeteries. Henrietta Kocot referred members to page 42 of the *Preservation Plan for Deerfield* which states that “local historical commissions are mandated to identify the historic resources that reflect the unique physical characteristics of the community by completing a comprehensive survey and inventory.” She cited a UMass contact, Maria Abunnasr, who might be able to help the Historical Commission with ideas about processing the inventory information if funds were available to pay for the student service. Henrietta distributed a listing of town monuments and cemeteries. By the Historical Commission’s May meeting, Bud Driver will check the listing for completeness. Edie Lipp and Pat Karkut will begin the process of photographing town monuments and cemeteries as part of the required documentation.

Clerk Matt Jakutowicz passed out a letter from Attorney Lisa Mead to Bernie Kubiak concerning a citizens’ petition about raising the issue of Archeaeolgy sites at the Town Meeting. Members also received a copy of information provided by Bernie Kubiak from Douglas Auctioneers on items in the estate of Edna Stahelek. Neither document was considered pertinent to the work of the Historical Commission.

Chair Henrietta Kocot informed members that two weeks earlier she had been asked to submit a summary of the Historical Commission’s previous year’s work for the Town of Deerfield Annual Report. Because of the immediate need for that summary, the document could not be approved by the full Historical Commission. A motion was made by Bud Driver and seconded by Henrietta Kocot to require that all future Historical Commission decisions, correspondence, and reports be approved by a quorum of the members. This motion was passed unanimously and a timeline was discussed for preparing the Historical Commission summary for next year’s Town of Deerfield Annual Report. The process will begin at the January meeting, giving time for revisions and for members’ approval. The Historical Commission will ask that its annual summary be printed as approved.

Finally, Bud Driver made a motion and Helen Petrovik seconded it to name Edna Stahelek posthumously as a member Emeritus of the Historical Commission. The motion was carried unanimously. It was also noted that Penny Davis is no longer a member of the Historical Commission.

At 8:15 P.M., Clerk Matt Jakutowicz made a motion to adjourn. The next meeting of the Historical Commission will be May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:30 in Room 130 of the Deerfield Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Jakutowicz, Clerk  
Deerfield Historical Commission

MJ:el