



Minutes of the Historical Commission Deerfield, MA.

Town Offices
 September 15, 2009

Members present: Henrietta Kocot, Chair; Edie Lipp, Clerk; Pat Potter

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 P.M. by Chair, Henrietta Kocot. Clerk, Edie Lipp, read minutes of the Historical Commission meeting of July 17, 2009. The minutes were approved by consensus.

2. Old business:

- The Historical Commission was unable to meet in August because we did not have a quorum.
- The Historical Commission accepted with regret the resignation of Helen Petrovic and Pat Karkut. Their service to the Town and the Historical Commission is appreciated and will be missed.
- We discussed again the need for new Historical Commission members – especially knowledgeable people who would be willing to work, not just discuss.
- We discussed again the need for a display place for Deerfield historical materials. Could a site be achieved through a CPA grant?
- Pat Potter reported on the Sugarloaf Cemetery cleaning project. She met with Jane Trigere and is preparing a list of needed supplies. She will follow up with Jane about cleaning needs and with Bernie Kubiak about Deerfield Academy student involvement. She will also speak with Hap Eaton and Larry Wrisley about broken stones and cleaning poison ivy and brush from the back of the cemetery.
- Edie Lipp reported on the oral history project and her meeting with Marti Barrett at Frontier Regional High School. Marti is eager to collaborate with the Historical Commission on projects. Because of Edie's knee injury, the scope of the oral history project will have to be small at this time. It may have to be deferred until spring.
- Edie reported that Marti Barrett would approve students working with the Historical Commission on the Sugarloaf Cemetery cleaning project and on making house number signs for historic houses around North and South Main Streets, Sugarloaf and Elm Streets. Henrietta Kocot will research house dates. Ultimately we hope to distribute memos to house owners, asking for information they might have on their house histories and asking if they be willing to have a date sign. Henrietta mentioned that free copies could be made at the jail if we provide the paper.

- Pat Potter showed the book of town photos she borrowed from Bette Schmitt at the Elementary School. Pat will investigate ways to copy and frame some of the photos, perhaps seeking framing donations.
- Pat Potter said it was proving challenging to get a copy of the large old map of Deerfield she had. She might have to go to the Engineering Department at UMass to get a copy made.

3. New Business

- At our next Historical Commission meeting, we will look at the CPA funding application. Edie will download the application from the internet. We discussed seeking funding for the Center Village project, including getting an intern to research grants and house histories and monies to contact homeowners and to create a walking tour brochure.
- Also at our next meeting, we will discuss a line item budget request to go before the SePhotlect Board, the Finance Committee, and the April Town Meeting. These are preliminary numbers:
 - \$250 Office supplies
 - \$275 Conferences and travel
 - \$100 Dues to MA Historical Commission
 - \$200 Materials for surveys of Center Village homeowners
 - \$175 Photography CDs, paper and processing for cemetery documentation

4. Assignments

- Henrietta: (1) research South Deerfield Center Village house dates (2) check with Kaycee Warren to see if the Community TV Channel can post our need for new Historical Commission members
- Edie: (1) Download CPA Application (2) keep contact with Principal Marti Barrett at **Frontier Regional School** about high school students and teachers joining with the Historical Commission in an oral history project spring term that would involve interviewing senior citizens about their experiences living in Deerfield. (3) research oral history projects done elsewhere and begin to write up a description for our Deerfield project to go over with Frontier teachers as soon as Edie can walk – probably November (4) check with Marti Barrett about Bernie Sadoski and Frontier students in woodworking helping with house sign project; need to find out what kind of wood and how much – then look for sources (5) Ask Kaycee Warren about postage, paper, and envelopes for a project like fliers to home owners in Center Village project.
- Pat: (1) continue researching cemetery cleaning materials and generate needs list to submit to the Town to see what supplies might be available (2) find out about DA plans (3) pursue how to duplicate Deerfield map..

5. At 8:45 P.M. Edie made a motion and Henrietta seconded it that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by consensus. The next meeting of the Historical Commission will be October 20, 2009 in Room 130 of the Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Lipp, Clerk
Deerfield Historical Commission