

Deerfield Historical Commission

Minutes

January 10, 2012

Meeting began at 5:35 pm

Present: Henrietta Kocot, Pat Potter, Jane Trigere, Marilyn McArthur

Guests Ken Schoen, John Nove, and Betty Hollingsworth, retired employee of the school department and president of the Deerfield High School reunion committee (for the classes 1925-1959; last class to graduate: 1956)

Minutes of December 13 accepted with corrections

Old Business

Marilyn spoke once with Doug Tierney about the centennial revolutionary markers, and will contact him again. The commission needs help identifying the correct locations for the markers.

Regarding the commission's goal of a computerized database for the cemeteries, Jane will contact Loretta Gass, who is knowledgeable about Brookside Cemetery's database. Jane will also ask Brookside what they do about stray footstones or other unidentified old stones. No decision yet what the commission will do to care for such stones at Sugarloaf Street cemetery.

Jane is the designated person to contact the Franklin County Tech shop teacher about the idea of students constructing display cases for Rm 130 and/or the hallways of town hall, for the cost of the materials.

Jane showed what Kai supplied for photos of "priority 1" stones in all cemeteries. The commission may take some of its own photos for the public information session.

An orange chain fence (visible to snow plows) now protects Sugarloaf Street cemetery on the side towards the buildings. Jane will introduce herself to the new highway superintendent.

New business

Jane reported a cold call she received from a man named Jay Jewett who lives in Florida, seeking information on ancestors in Sugarloaf Street cemetery. Jane will send him photos of the graves and the Jewett house on North Main Street. Jewett has offered to contribute money for further work needed at the cemetery, especially a new fence. The commission gratefully accepts that offer and any other such offers to come.

The commission intends at this time to submit CPA applications, one for Priority 1 stone repair in all town cemeteries, and one to begin neighborhood survey work toward a South Deerfield Historic District. Henrietta will ask the Select board if they wish to submit an application for an architectural assessment of the old grammar school (senior center bldg.), the first step in determining what to do with the building.

We looked at "A Guide to the Old Burying Ground – Albany Road, Deerfield Mass." Published by Historic Deerfield and sold for \$2. at their gift store.

Jane has asked if someone else is willing to take on administration of cemetery repair contracts.

Next meeting January 17 after the assessors maps presentation. Agenda: review draft annual report

Adjourned 7 pm