## **Deerfield Historical Commission**

**Jan. 5, 2015 Minutes** 

**Present:** Bud Driver, Betty Hollingsworth, Henrietta Kocot, John Nove (chair), Ken Schoen, Jane Trigère.

Guest: Bridgett Herzog (Historic Deerfield) Tim Neumann (PVMA) Deb Blodgett, Robert

Feltovic.

Clerk's Report: Review of the December minutes. Approved unanimously

**Correspondence**: John received a letter from MHC. We will discuss more next month.

# **Old Business**

## Review of the final Inventory Project quarterly report

Ken reviews Marilyn's excellent final report.

Recommendations

- 1. Bloody Brook Monument to our advantage to seek a nomination to National Register of Historic Places or to apply and include the monument in a South Deerfield Historic District.
- 2. Walking and/or driving tour of Deerfield.

#### Town Hall display cabinet update

John reported they will be installed this week!

Recorder article: both Jane & John both called the reporter to mention that he forgot to ask re role of DHC

Discussion on contact with the press to let them know what we are doing in general.

We will have an event to highlight the "resource center" we have created: Lecture by Gramly

# **New Business**

## Town Hall display cabinets - next steps

Approve spending for printing texts/labels for display cabinet

Richard Michael Gramly has volunteered to write the labels for the items in the cases.

Approval for funds to print up this texts.

Dick Little geologist from GCC will write an intro piece on geological piece.

Henrietta motion for funds; Ken 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

# Discussion of DHC projects/proposals for CPA funding -Civil War Memorial

Deb Blodgett here to explain her report

One of the first monuments to represent a real soldier. This is unique. 147 years old.

It was replicated in Granby, CT. That one is now restored for \$50,000.

PVMA hired the Francis Miller who did a comprehensive assessment. It is now a known hazard.

2 parts of monument: 1) the soldier sculpture by Batterson 2) the plinth support.

Rec. to remove damaged soldier asap. (\$23,000) removing but adding the missing rifle.

Restoring the plinth. (\$47,000 plus removal of soldier)

We could add an interpretive sign. Can add a replica of the soldier in bronze or even other cheaper materials.

Discussion re which labor and costs of removing the soldier and where to store it.

We all agree that the soldier must be removed for safety sake. What happens next has to be parsed carefully.

Ken: out of the box idea. A ceremony for the distribution of pieces of the soldier. A real 19<sup>th</sup>-century solution.

Tim: remember it sits on a very visible place in history and space. Deerfield Academy. Anniversary of statue is 2 years away. This is not solely the town's responsibility. Everyone knows that towns do not have the funds for this endeavor.

Tim described the space at the time the monument went up. Severe, with fence, and no landscaping.

John: get funds to remove soldier and restore pedestal and then seek funding for the soldier. DHC applies for the grant. First CPC meeting is Feb 12.

Deb has spent 129 hours. \$20,000 has already been spent to get this far.

John: proposes to ask CPC for the funds to remove soldier and Bud 2<sup>nd.</sup> All in favor. Agreed to make a CPA application

Keith Finan is our contact at DA. Chucky Williams is head of building & grounds there.

John will follow up with Kayce Warren and DPW to alleviate the dangerous situation. Removal in early spring, rather than wait until July for available funds.

We need to understand how the 2 parts of the monument/soldier are connected.

We will have a professional conservator involved as a consultant.

## -Old Albany Road cemetery restoration

Possible partners for potential CPA funding: Family Tables, PVMA, DA

Review of costs for the Old Albany Road Cemetery. Review of 3 priorities of stones. Motion by Ken ask for \$53,000 to repair stones as per the assessment. Betty 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approve.

# **Unforeseen matters arising**

Bud says we need a point person to deal with archeology issues. See Minutes June 17, 2008. John recommended the entire DHCommission be the "point person." Discussion tabled for next meeting.

The next CPC meeting is on Feb 12.

Ken moved to adjourn the meeting; John seconded. All agreed. John closed the meeting at 7:30. Our next meeting will be Monday February 2, 2015 at 5:15pm. Respectfully submitted by Jane Trigère, clerk