

JANUARY 26, 2012 MINUTES ENFIELD HERITAGE COMMISSION

The Enfield Heritage Commission held its January 2012 meeting at 4:30 PM (new time) in the Whitney Hall Conference Room. Those in attendance were Mary Ann Haagen, Celie Aufiero, Suzanne Hinman, Marjorie Carr, and Meredith Smith, Chair. The December minutes were approved as amended.

HISTORIC MARKER PROJECT

Suzanne reported that she contacted Mary Kate Ryan and learned that she has not yet approved our wording but that Mary Kate hoped to review the wording at the end of January. Meredith also reported her conversation with Nancy Dutton, Chair of the NH Historic Advisory Council. Nancy told Meredith that she did not have any problem with the use of the word "unique" when referring to the Enfield Shakers and their relationship with the town. Nancy promised to do what she could to move the application process along.

RESIGNATION OF REBECCA STEWART

Members of the Commission received the resignation of Rebecca Stewart by email earlier in the week. Meredith Smith asked the Commission for suggestions of possible names to be referred to the Selectboard for consideration as a replacement for Rebecca on the Commission. Several names were discussed. Meredith will follow up on the suggestions.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

Meredith Smith informed the Commission that she has proposed to the Enfield Shaker Museum that they begin a collaborative effort with the Commission to work on applying for National Historic Landmark status for the Great Stone Dwelling. Smith pointed out that this would be a tremendous honor for both the Museum and the Town of Enfield and certainly boost tourism for both the Museum and the town. It is a lengthy process requiring a great deal of research. Mary Ann mentioned that a lot of paperwork already exists which should reduce the time and cost of research. Mary Ann pointed out that having the Heritage Commission as a partner with the Museum would help the application process tremendously. Smith assured the Commission that any financial costs involved would be born by the Museum. She also informed the Commission that she planned to take the Webinar course being offered by the US Department of the Interior, designed to educate applicants for the National Historic Landmarks in the intricacies' of the application process. The Commission voted unanimously to work in collaboration with the museum on this project.

ANNUAL AWARD

A discussion of who might be the recipient of the annual award resulted in the selection of a candidate. Celie will contact the Lions Club to get a plaque made for the award.

SHAKER BRIDGE PROJECT

Grand opening ceremonies will probably be in September if the construction progress continues as planned. Suzanne spoke about the lighting for the bridge. She has been to the Energy Committee and they have made a recommendation that low energy lighting that complies with Enfield's lighting ordinance be selected. However, Suzanne also informed the Commission that at present, there are no funds for lighting of the new bridge so it will go unlit for the first year. This was of great concern to the entire Commission. The design of the eventual bridge lighting was also discussed. It was felt that the lighting, while complying with the lighting ordinance, should also be of an aesthetically pleasing design and harmonize with the Main Street lamp post design. Meredith volunteered to contact Alex Vogt to ask about suppliers of historic and lighting appropriate lighting. Suzanne agreed to be the Commission point person for the bridge lighting.

ENFIELD CENTER TOWN HOUSE

Once again, the Commission voiced concern for the unattended maintenance of the Town House.

EVA UPDATE

The EVA Annual Meeting will be Wednesday Feb. 15

ENFIELD SHAKER MUSEUM UPDATE

A Snowshoe-a-thon to be held on Feb. 11. There will also be a Valentine dinner.

OTHER BUSINESS

Suzanne showed the Commission a walking tour brochure from Norwich, VT. She mentioned that Norwich had received funding for the brochure from the Certified Local Government Program. Meredith Smith noted that Enfield would also be eligible for these grant funds if we had design guidelines in place for our historic district. There was a general discussion of what design guidelines might involve. Mary Ann will investigate whether they have design guidelines and if so, what are they might be.

MEETING TIME

Time of meetings was discussed. It was felt that the time should be according to season. In the winter months, meetings could be held at 4:30, reverting to 5:30 from March through October. This issue will need to be resolved with the town offices.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith
Chair