

Minutes of July 23, 2009
Enfield Heritage Commission

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on Thursday, July 23 in the Whitney Hall Conference room. Those in attendance were: Marjorie Carr, Suzanne Hinman, Rebecca Stewart, Meredith Smith, and special guest, Marty Wilson. Excused: Paul Mirski, Mary Ann Hagen, & Celie Aufeiro.

The June minutes were approved as written.

Meredith Smith introduced special guest, Marty Wilson, an EVA Director who has been working on a project to build two twenty foot docks on the Mascoma River which would accommodate boaters visiting Enfield Village. Marty explained that the docks would be built on town owned land and maintained by EVA. At present, the dock permitting process seems to be bogged down at the state level. Marjorie Carr pointed out that there were once town docks (in roughly the same place EVA plans to build these new docks) where the steamboats, which sailed on Lake Mascoma tied up. All agreed this was a most worthwhile project. Smith will write a letter of support, endorsing the EVA dock project.

Smith reported that the National Register Application process has moved another step closer to completion. She has received the photographs back from the researchers and they now must be organized into archival sleeves. A work party will be scheduled in early August to accomplish this.

Meredith Smith reported on her meeting with the DOT last week and the proposal Paul Mirski (who was also in attendance at the meeting) put forward regarding the removal of the railroad bridge. Paul suggested that one of the existing abutments be left in place (one closest to Lebanon) and the rail trail crossing be an at-grade crossing, thus opening up a vista of the lake and Cardigan Mountain. The Commission enthusiastically approved this idea and will go on record as supporting an at-grade crossing.

Smith called attention to the up-coming 250th anniversary of Enfield's charter, which was signed on July 4, 1761. All agreed it was something the town should celebrate in a big way with a parade, fireworks, and perhaps the beginnings of an Old Home Day celebration.

Suzanne Hinman reported that the town had replaced two of the missing historic markers, which had been destroyed by the town snowplow. Three signs are still not in place. The Tannery sign and the Copeland block sign have yet to be installed. The Enfield Advocate sign is missing. Meredith Smith will check with Sam Tucker, the building's owner, to find out if he knows of its whereabouts.

Meredith Smith gave an update of activities at the Enfield Shaker Museum. July has been a busy month with the 4th of July Sing-Along, Art & Garden Tour, Dragonfly Ball, and a Shaker Symposium. The Farmer's Market, moved this year to the Museum site, is doing very well in its new location.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair