

## Minutes of August 27, 2009 Enfield Heritage Commission

The August 27, 2009 meeting of the Enfield Heritage Commission was held in the Whitney Hall Conference Room. Those in attendance were Suzanne Hinman, Paul Mirski, Marjorie Carr, Mary Ann Hagen, Meredith Smith, Chair, and Steven Schneider, Town Manager. Absent were Rebecca Stewart and Celie Aufeiro.

The July minutes were approved as written.

Meredith Smith had invited Dolores Struckhoff, recently appointed EVA Executive Director, to the meeting. Due to a scheduling conflict, Ms. Struckhoff was unable to attend. She plans to attend the September meeting, however. Smith commented that she looks forward to a close working relationship between the Heritage Commission and EVA in the future.

Smith gave an update on the progress with the National Register application. All the photographs have been labeled, numbered, and placed in archival sleeves. The four binders with photographs will be sent to the historic researcher for completion of the application process as soon as the photographic pages can be scanned into the town's computer. It is anticipated this will be done in the next week or so. Smith also informed the Commission that she has been told by the researcher that Enfield's application will go before the next National Register Review Board in January, 2010 and that soon after that, Enfield Village can expect its nomination approval as a National Historic Register District.

An extensive discussion of the proposed Shaker Bridge project was held. Paul Mirski emphasized the need to put pressure on the DOT to insure that Enfield gets the best possible design options for the bridge and surrounding approach area. Mr. Mirski would like to see sidewalks on both sides of the new bridge (as there are now, only wider) to create a "promenade" for residents and visitors, allowing for fishing and scenic viewing from the bridge. Mirski also suggested that if the DOT follows the Heritage Commission's request for an at-grade crossing at the old railroad underpass, this would save a million dollars in rebuilding a rail trail bridge which could then be applied to other amenities and design features in the bridge project. Mr. Mirski has agreed to pursue these recommendations with the DOT.

A discussion of Enfield's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration concluded that although a regional celebration is planned for the 40 towns, which received their charters on July 4, 1761, Enfield should also plan its own special celebration. Smith will contact Tom Byrne who is in charge of the regional celebration to coordinate efforts.

Suzanne Hinman reported that most of the missing or destroyed historic plaques have been replaced. The two plaques at the tannery and 78 Main Street have been installed. Only the Enfield Advocate sign is still missing and will be replaced. Suzanne also reported that Lee Carrier, EVA President, has expressed an interest in continuing the historic plaque project, adding as many as six more plaques in the Village area. A suggestion has also been made that perhaps plaques could be purchased to honor a person or site, much the same as the flower baskets have been purchased.

An exploratory discussion regarding possible town acquisition of land, which would allow improved public access to Lake Mascoma, was held. No conclusions were reached but the Town Manager took note of the discussion.

Steven Schneider, Town Manager, presented three conceptual drawings for the re-design of Huse Park. There was a lively discussion which followed, especially regarding the ball field and whether it might be moved to another location in town. Marjorie Carr asked that consideration be given to accommodate adults in the park design. A bandstand seemed to be a feature all would like to see in the redesigned park.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair