

October 25, 2007 Minutes
Enfield Heritage Commission

The Enfield Heritage Commission held its October 25 meeting in Whitney Hall Conference Room with the full Commission present (Marjorie Carr, Paul Mirski, Suzanne Hinman, Celie Aubeiro, Rebecca Stewart, Mary Ann Hagen, and Meredith Smith with Steve Schneider attending as Town Manager).

Smith opened the meeting with a discussion of when the Commission might go before the Budget Committee to discuss the budget request for the National Register application process. Since Paul Mirski will be away in November, Steve Schneider said he would put the Commission on the agenda for the December Budget meeting.

Suzanne Hinman reported that the EVA walking tour brochure was ready for the printer and that EVA was awaiting funding for the project.

Mary Ann Hagen reported extensive activity at the Enfield Shaker Museum. The new furnace has been installed and storm windows will be the next capital improvement. There have been several concerts at the Museum and Elderhostel was winding up a busy week there with participants from all over the country. The Harvest Festival was the most successful ever.

The Commission discussed the flagpole near the Laundromat. EVA will take responsibility for painting the pole but it sits on private property (shared between the owners of the Laundromat and the "Out of the Woodworks" building). The land it sits on does not belong to the town. However, the flagpole does, having been given to the town as a memorial to World War I soldiers in 1918.

Rebecca Stewart reported that she had received the conservator's estimate to repair and stabilize the theater drops now stored in Enfield Center Town Hall. To clean, repair, and stabilize all 6 curtains, the cost would be \$17,000. The Commission will look for grant funding to cover this cost. The drop originally in Whitney Hall will be returned to the Hall once it is conserved.

Smith asked the Commission for a volunteer to serve as Vice Chairman in the event of her absence. Rebecca Stewart volunteered to serve in that capacity.

Smith brought up the possibility of assisting Main Street property owners with design decisions, offering guidance as they renovate. Smith said she had photographed the 8 buildings, which will be used as part of the Budget Committee request, illustrating the positive impact of encouraging renovation of historic buildings. Paul Mirski emphasized the value in creating a photographic record of all buildings within the proposed historic district, even including trees and vegetation as part of the documentation. He suggested making a photographic survey of all doorways within the historic district as an example of illustrating various architectural styles. Smith agreed that this was something the Commission could undertake as an on-going project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM. Some members of the Commission then went to view the new theater and window curtains in Whitney Hall Auditorium. The transformation of the Hall is nothing short of miraculous and major thanks goes to Rebecca Stewart for accomplishing this miracle!

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair