

MINUTES  
April 27, 2006 Enfield Heritage Commission

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on Thursday, April 27, 2006 at 5:30 PM. Those present: Marjorie Carr, Celie Aufiero, and Meredith Smith. Also attending was Town Manager, Steven Schneider. Absent were Curtis Payne and Mary Ann Haagan.

Meredith Smith updated the commission on the historic marker project. The eight historic markers are currently being fabricated by Allen Charbano and will be installed at the designated properties sometime this spring. Marjorie Carr also updated the Commission on the status of the bronze plaque to be installed at the Shaker site. It is also being fabricated and should be ready for installation in the near future.

Meredith Smith discussed the possibility of creating an historic district in Enfield, possibly beginning with the Main Street to Shaker site area. She noted that this would be an important step for developing historic tourism and possible grant funding. It would not put any restrictions on property owners, however. Smith will continue to explore the possibilities for an historic district for Enfield through the NH Division of Historic Resources.

A lengthy discussion of a possible "Moose Plate Grant" for Whitney Hall was discussed. This is a non-matching fund grant, awarded to public buildings for up to \$10,000 and is funded by the Moose license plates. Several projects were mentioned as possibilities that would not conflict with any proposed renovations to the building. They included a new furnace, stage curtain, and painting part of the building. Smith gave the grant application to the town Manager for further study.

The draft design guidelines, which had been temporarily put aside last year, were once again brought up for discussion. All seemed to agree that this was a worthwhile project and would be a good one to work on with the EVA Design Committee. Smith will bring the present draft guidelines to the next Design Committee meeting to begin a working discussion. It was suggested that once the guidelines are written, they should have a notation on them as "supported by the Enfield Planning Board and Select Board". It was also stressed that such guidelines would have no legal clout but would tend to encourage and promote good design.

Smith brought up the issue of scenic views as part of Enfield heritage, as reflected in the mission statement of the Commission. Of particular concern is the land abutting the Enfield Garage, which overlooks the lake. It has been discussed as a possible site for a 30,000 square foot building. Celie Aufiero noted that it is a natural swale to the lake and if developed, could cause serious environmental damage and water pollution. The Town Manager suggested it might be a candidate for a conservation easement.

The Town Manager reported that the Enfield Shaker Museum had been in the day before and paid a substantial amount on their delinquent tax bill, thus avoiding any action by the town.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meredith Smith, Chair, Enfield Heritage Commission