

MINUTES September 28, 2006 Enfield Heritage Commission

The monthly meeting of the Enfield Heritage Commission was held on September 28, 2006, at 5:30 PM in the Whitney Hall Conference Room. Those present were Mary Ann Haagen, Marjorie Carr, Celie Aufeiro, and guest, Suzanne Hinman. Curtis Payne was excused.

It was agreed that members would review past minutes electronically and send any omissions or corrections to the Chair.

Chairman Smith updated the Commission on the status of the Main Street historic markers. They are completed and will be installed by Ken Daniels and his crew, hopefully this week, to coincide with the grand unveiling of the Shaker historic marker on Saturday, September 30. Smith also suggested that the Commission work with EVA to continue this program of historic markers until all the buildings and sites within the historic crescent (Main Street to the Shaker Museum) have been identified. Smith will contact Sharon Carr at EVA to express the Commission's desire to continue the program.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the petition to create a historic district from the existing Heritage Commission. All agreed that this would be the easiest and best approach. However, the establishment of a historic district will be put off for a year, until the town has actually voted in and established the historic commission. It was further agreed to request an additional two members be added to the proposed historic district commission on the petition being circulated to put the historic district commission on the town warrant. In adding two members to the Commission, it would bring the Commission up to a full seven members, the maximum allowed by state regulations.

Continuing the discussion of the historic district, it was agreed that the first work of the Commission following Town Meeting should be to establish the boundaries for the historic district. Although historic districts are not "cast in stone" and can be added to at any time, Mary Ann stressed that if our first goal was to establish Enfield's historic crescent as a historic district, we should make sure we do just that. In other words, just going block by block, year after year, would not be the approach to take. The Commission agreed. This would not mean that other areas of the town such as Lochaven or Enfield Center would not eventually become historic districts; simply that the historic crescent connecting Main Street to the Museum would be our first district to be established.

The status of the Whitney Hall application for National Historic Register status is still in limbo. Meredith Smith will call Christine Fonda Rankie at the NH Division of Historic Resources to find out what needs to be done to process the application. She will also ask Steve Schneider to meet with Marjorie to start the application process. The question of photographs for the application arose. Mary Ann Haagen suggested that the remaining funds in this year's Heritage budget be set aside for the purpose of hiring a photographer to take the necessary photographs for the National Register application for Whitney Hall. All agreed to that suggestion. Meredith will contact the Town Manager to request that the funds be set aside for this purpose. Suzanne Hinman mentioned that her husband was an excellent photographer and might be able to take the necessary photographs. First, the Commission must get specific information regarding what the photographic requirements are. Smith will also ask Fonda Rankie about this issue.

Mary Ann Haagen reported on the fall activities of the Enfield Shaker Museum. The annual Harvest Festival will be held on October 7. The historic marker dedication will take place on Saturday, September 30 at 10 AM. The public is encouraged to attend both events.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair