

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 MINUTES

ENFIELD HERITAGE COMMISSION

The September meeting of the Enfield Heritage Commission was held in the Whitney Hall Conference Room. Those in attendance: Mary Ann Haagen, Marjorie Carr, Celie Aufiero, Shirley Green, Linda Jones, and Meredith Smith, Chair. The approval of the August minutes was postponed till next month due to lack of hard copy minutes.

Linda Jones reported on the workshop (CAMP-Commission on Assistance and Mentoring Program) put on by DHR. They had brought in speakers from various parts of the country, in addition to local and state preservationists. The central issue of the conference was "why preservation matters". It was pointed out that there is money for surveys and also grant funding for preservation projects. Legalities, ethics, and legal status were also discussed. A session on design guidelines and planning and how to make preservation planning part of the local planning process was very informative. Most relevant to Enfield covered surveys and land planning. Linda asked Commission members where are we going; what should we be doing. Mary Ann Haagen said right now our most important mission is to advocate for the waterfront park. Long term, our neglected issue is our mill history. Mary Ann asked if we have any documentation on mill history. Marjorie Carr responded that there is some. Marjorie added that in the early days when the Historical Society focused on Enfield, there were some mill workers interviewed. A discussion of doing an oral history project with former mill workers ensued. Mary Ann suggested using Spokt as a resource for photos and information. She also mentioned that Cheryl Gerding had donated several boxes of Shaker papers and clippings to the Museum. Linda brought up the need to develop a preservation policy. She pointed out that the Heritage Commission must provide all records, including personal emails. Meredith Smith will review the conference material Linda provided and make some recommendations to the Commission from that material.

Meredith Smith reported on the meeting with Plan NH, held at the old motel site on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. Meredith asked Shirley to convey the message of the charette to the Conservation Commission to make sure they have a say in the environmental impact of the road. There is concern regarding the impact of an impervious surface so close to the lake.

Meredith Smith again brought up the goal of design guidelines for the historic district and suggested working with EVA. Mary Ann suggested this issue be put off till Suzanne gets back. Marjorie said she thought there were design and planning restrictions for the Route 4 corridor (TIF District). Connector roads were mentioned as something Commission members recalled being in the development guidelines for the TIF District. Meredith suggested that David Saladino was very involved with planning of the TIF District and that he has also been the planner involved with White River's Historic District. It was suggested that we invite Saladino to our next meeting (or when he might be able to attend). Meredith will try to get copy of TIF design guidelines. The Commission expressed concern that presently there seemed to be no long term vision for the town.

Mary Ann reported that the Museum had hosted a very successful Harvest Festival and that on October 24, there will be a "Phantom of the Opera" event in the Mary Keane Chapel, featuring a silent movie with appropriate "spooky type" music. There remains concern over the fate of the La Salette Shrine but it appears the Christmas lights will be on this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair