

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on June 22, 2017 in the Whitney Hall Conference Room at 4:30 PM. Those in attendance: Mary Ann Haagen, Celie Aufiero, Shirley Green, Suzanne Hinman, Linda Jones, and Meredith Smith, Chair. Guests attending: Don Roberts and Aaron Simson (Roberts attorney). The April Minutes were approved as written.

Mr. Simson and Mr. Roberts presented an issue regarding the quitclaim deed for 18 High Street which Mr. Roberts obtained from the Town when he purchased the property in 2004. There were two issues within the deed, created by the Town attorney at the time, which are problematic for Mr. Roberts in selling his property at 18 High Street; the requirement to post a permanent sign/plaque that the property may have been the site of the first village schoolhouse and that the renovations and/or construction must be completed within the year of purchase. Due to the condition of the building at time of purchase, Mr. Roberts was forced to demolish the structure and rebuild on the site. This was allowed by the then-Town Manager and Selectboard. The Building Inspector never authorized the completion of the work as required in the deed, although an occupancy permit was given. Mr. Simson will work out this issue with Phil Neily. The Heritage Commission agreed that any plaque on the building would be unnecessary due to the lack of evidence that this was, in fact, the site of the first schoolhouse. The Commission applauded Mr. Roberts work in creating an attractive house at the site which is in keeping with the Historic District. Meredith Smith suggested that Mr. Simson contact the Town Attorney to see if this deed issue could be easily resolved and allow Mr. Roberts to sell his property to the interested buyer. There is a closing date which has been scheduled for mid-July so it is imperative the deed issue be resolved as quickly as possible. It should also be noted that Julie Huntley is assisting Mr. Roberts in this matter.

Meredith Smith noted that she has not heard from either the Mooseplate Grant or the National Register application.

Mary Ann Haagen and Meredith Smith attended the Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway meeting on Wednesday, June 21. The project appears to be moving along and it is hoped the Byway will be back in good standing by fall, at which time Enfield can apply to extend the Byway through to Enfield Center.

An extensive discussion regarding parking in the Historic District resulted in a resolution unanimously passed objecting to any type of parking structure (parking garage or deck) within the Historic District. Further, the Commission expressed concern that any additional parking areas to be created within the Historic District be sensitive to the historic nature of the village. Concern was voiced over the Town allowing a business to be established without taking into consideration parking issues. Mary Ann Haagen noted that when the Shaker Museum was about to lease the Great Stone Dwelling to Historic Inns of New England, they were compelled by the Town to create 50 parking spaces to accommodate Inn visitors.

The Commission discussed ways to implement action items Linda Jones had brought from the NH Preservation Alliance Spring Conference. Meredith will check with Alisa regarding how much money is left in the Heritage budget and if we might purchase a banner for use in parades and other public events. Linda suggested we dedicate our next meeting to a discussion of a web site for the Heritage Commission and social media coverage.

Meredith gave a brief update of the Lakeside Park. The NH DOT will begin work on July 5 with expected completion by August 11. There is some concern that people are using the boat launch area to walk and swim their dogs, making it sometimes troublesome for people launching or taking out small boats. Some people are also using the boat launch area as a swimming area. Meredith will bring up these issues at the July Selectboard meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair