

# **Lee Heritage Commission**

## **Minutes of Meeting of February 21, 2013**

**Present:**

**Members:** Laura Gund, Denis Hambucken, Patricia Jenkins (Chair), David Meeker, Preston Samuel

**Ex Officio:** David Cedarholm, Board of Selectmen

**Visitors:** Laurel Cox, Bill and Ann Payson of George Bennett Road

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on January 18, 2013, approved as written.

**Updates and Announcements:**

**Visit to Julie Glover's Home:** The LHC wishes to express their thanks and appreciation of Ms. Glover's invitation to visit her house.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Historical Markers:** P. Samuels summarized the progress and remaining work involved in the establishment of the eight historic markers within the Town.

**Heritage Commission Calendars:** L. Gund reported that sufficient calendars have now been sold to cover the cost of printing. With this encouraging news the theme for the 2014 calendars was discussed. Among the themes suggested were "Draft Animals of Lee" and "Old Houses of Lee".

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Payson House on Lee Hill and Lee Hill Historical District:** The Paysons, of George Bennett Road, came to see if the Heritage Commission might support the purchase of their house by the Town should they decide to sell it. Their point, supported by D. Cedarholm, is that the house, built in 1774, is a very historical home right in the center of Lee which could serve as a center-piece for the future establishment of an historic district on Lee Hill. D. Cedarholm feels that Lee Hill has the potential for a historic district similar to that of the Wiswall Dam Historic District which includes the dam, its industrial history and remaining artifacts, and some of the related homes in the immediate area. The consideration of an historic district on Lee Hill initiated considerable discussion of the location and form of a potential Town Center and Library. D. Cedarholm spoke for the possible combination of the Payson house and the adjoining Stevens Field as a location for the building. D. Hambucken supported this concept as a move which would refresh rather than divide the center as, he fears, would be the construction of the Library/Center on the Bricker property. Other members disagreed or expressed concern for this statement. L. Cox offered to contact Mary Kate Ryan of the NH Registry of Historic Places, to see if she would visit Lee and discuss the process for establishing an historic district. D. Cedarholm will also seek support for such a process. In support of the establishment of an historic district at Lee Center, the Heritage Commission will begin the identification of historic houses in Lee.

**Traffic Pattern in Lee Center:** The discussion above generated considerable discussion of the problems and hazards associated with traffic patterns at the intersection of Lee Hook Road, George Bennett Road, and Rte. 155 and its importance in the future location of the Library/Town Center.

**Lee Semiquincentennial Celebration:** In discussing possible activities within Lee's celebration of its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016, Bill Payson, suggested that a reenactment of the Battle at Wheelwright Pond, July 6, 1690, would be an appropriate addition to the celebration. He will investigate the procedures and cost associated with such an event.

**Regulations for Lee Little River Park:** The Heritage Commission has been asked to comment on the draft of regulations concerning the use of Little River Park. Two matters were discussed. P. Samuel noted that there should be some item concerning use of the park after dark. It was the general consensus of the Commission that normal family usage of the facilities of the park should not require a fee.

**Next Meeting: March 21, 2013**