

November 17, 2011

Lee Heritage Commission

Present were: Pat Jenkins, Preston Samuel, Laurel Cox, Laura Gund, Denis Hambucken

**Burleigh-DeMeritt House:** Discussed the latest e-mail from Doug Bencks in which he explains that UNH's latest focus has been on the Kingman farmhouse in Madbury and the O'Kane House in Durham. Apparently the O'Kane house is set to be dismantled and moved to another site. Consequently, they have not had occasion to talk about the Burleigh-DeMeritt House. Laurel has been discussing this latest event with folks from Madbury and trying to get further information about the history of the houses, etc. She has spoken to George Estes (former professor at UNH who was active at the Kingman Farm) and he will write a letter expressing his wishes regarding the Kingman Farm house (hoping it will not be dismantled). We talked about Denis doing a newspaper article about all three houses with information we will gather for him. We made plans to go on a "photo shoot" of the three houses, which we will do on Friday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. We wondered how Durham feels about the fact that the O'Kane house is leaving.

**Minutes:** We will add to these minutes that "we have not heard from our visitors from Michigan" who came to Lee to learn more about their ancestors. The minutes of 10/20/11 were approved as read with one change: Jennison should be Jemmison.

**Membership:** Denis has agreed to be a permanent member of our Commission. Pat will present his name to the Selectmen for approval. Welcome, Denis!

**Barns:** Preston will check out the barn file. Otherwise, nothing new.

**Signs:** In the process of doing research on the Indians of the area, Preston has found out quite a bit of information about an Indian site on Turtle Pond Road. (This will be included in the Heritage Commission book of minutes.) Denis talked about the web site and having a map with sites marked on it. There would be 3 icons for Photos, Text, and Audio.

**More Burleigh-DeMeritt House:** We all recently attended a selectmen's meeting to bring them up to date on what was happening with UNH and the B-D House. They appreciated that all of us showed up for the meeting. They were supportive, not only verbally, but they offered us the opportunity to present our papers, time line, etc. to the town attorney, which would be financial support. A copy of Doug Bencks' e-mail will go to the Board of Selectmen as well as Acting Town Administrator Chet Murch.

**Budget:** Pat presented our budget to the Advisory Budget Committee which included \$300 for operating, \$900 for signs, \$1500 towards the history of Lee and an additional \$1000 for the semiquincentennial celebration in 2016. Since we planned to add \$1000 each year, the ABC questioned whether we were aiming for \$5000 and if so, we'd have to ask for more than \$1000 a year since we would need it in 2015. Pat explained that we had put it in our budget since no one else seems to be doing anything about the celebration. George Walker has a photo of his parents taken in 1916 and he would like to see it used somewhere during the semiquincentennial celebration.

**Local place names:** Mel is working on a list of local names such as Malfunction Junction and Tater Bug Corner.

**Inventory:** Our inventory work continues. We have one fireproof cabinet to finish up (4 drawers). We will not meet next week since it would be the day before Thanksgiving. Then we will need to figure out how to index everything.

**Demolition Ordinance:** We need to have this done before our next meeting. Preston will write a sample ordinance to pass around.

We will meet next Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> to work on the vault.

Our next meeting will be December 15, 2011

Minutes submitted by Laura Gund.