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MINUTES
LYME HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 28, 2014   7:00 p.m.
LCA Meeting Room

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PRESENT: Ray Clark, chair; Adair Mulligan, vice chair; Jane Fant ; Laurie Wadsworth, alternate; Tim Cook, alternate; Patty Jenks, selectperson
ABSENT: Rick Pond

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Chair Ray Clark.

1. Approval of Minutes Minutes from the April 22, 2014 meeting, as amended in the second draft, were unanimously approved.

2. Role and Purpose of the Heritage Commission Discussion digressed as we clarified our role and purpose. For instance, we revisited the issue of a barn easement violation. (See Minutes, Feb. 25, 2014)

We strongly agree that we should not become embroiled in controversy. We continue to broadcast our positive, affirming, informational role through such publications as the pamphlet (currently in the Town Office and library, and to be included in Newcomers' packets) and the letter reminding barn owners whose Barn Preservation Easements needed to be renewed this spring.   Our hope is that owners of historic properties in Lyme will become aware and supportive of our purpose.

Further, our role and purpose will become more apparent and useful to the Town as the Planning and Zoning Boards get accustomed to using the *Inventory of Historic Resources*. It is in the original warrant, establishing the Commission, that we are a resource for these boards, especially Zoning. Though the Zoning Administrator has the form electronically for each property on the *Inventory*, we are unsure if he is yet in the habit of checking them when a historic property is up for review. Hopefully, the property's date (before 1962) would be a signal to check the *Inventory*. Patty will look into this, and inform us of any other ways to facilitate the *Inventory*'s consistent use.

3. Progress on Publishing of the *Summary Report*

Editing - Jane reported on her difficulty, as she has been typing in some of the corrections and additions to Liz's final copy (especially with photographs). There are only a few edits, but we inadvertently omitted 3 properties which we feel should be included: the 2 Balch homes on Pleasant Street and the Creamery. As an experienced editor, Jane needs no help with the text; however, Ray suggested that we hire someone who is skillful in formatting with text and photos. Ray will call Jeff Valence for advice, after school gets out in mid-June. Laurie agreed to take photos of the 3 properties and forward them to Jane. Laurie will also forward to Jane a list of all the maps in the Summary Report, to be listed on the Table of Contents page.

Additional information - The initial inventory, and therefore the *Summary Report*, covered only homes and schoolhouses. We agreed that adding a lot of additional information would delay the publication; however, we want to include brief descriptions and references for further information for these historic resources:

∝   Barns – State how many documented barns we have; refer to 2003 Historic Barns Survey, available for perusal at the Lyme Historians' office.

∝   Bridges and culverts - list, with dates and locations? [add a photo?]

∝   Cemeteries – list, with dates and locations; refer to the Cemetery Commission's page on the Town website

∝   Churches – list, with dates and locations; refer to each church's Trustees for more information

∝   Schoolhouses - list, with dates and locations? Refer to Historians' 2011 booklet *Historic Schoolhouses of Lyme New Hampshire*

∝   Taverns - list, with dates and locations?

∝   Tombs - list, with dates and locations [and a photo? – Laurie has one of the Breck Hill tomb]

Index – Adair had contacted Jan Williams, a professional indexer, who is willing to make an index at a greatly reduced fee. When the above editing and additions are complete, Jan will take a look and give us a firm fee.

We brainstormed a list of topics that should be indexed; Adair recorded this list and will pass it on to Jan.

Finished copy – Ray reported that we have about $2,000 left in our account, which could be used for publishing.

We agreed that this first publication should be a useful tool, and therefore in softbound, spiral notebook form. Later, if there is interest, we might look into making a few "coffee table" hard-bound books. When we have a final page count, Ray will get pricing information from his daughter, who is in the publishing business.

We agreed that the *Summary Report* should be made available on the Town's website. We might order 50 copies, which would be given to the Town Office, the library, the Select Board, and heads of other Town committees. We would also offer copies, at cost, to interested property owners.

Therefore, the sequence of tasks leading up to publishing are:
1.   Three photos taken – Laurie
2.   Text editing – Jane
3.   Additional information page written - who??
4.   Glossary of terms – Adair? (adapt from other LH publications)
5.   Final edit, with photographs – (possibly Jeff V?)
6.   Index – Jan Williams

4. Stone Walls Adair distributed an information sheet from the NH Division of Historical Resources about *Town Initiatives to Protect Stone Walls*. She noted that it is dated 2007, so she will check that their list of laws is up to date, but still there is important information included for us to consider. Tim will look into Lyme's Master Plan and Site Plan Review to see if there are any regulations in Lyme. We all agreed that

the stone walls are another important historic, and legal (boundary lines) resource that need protection.

5. Other Tim reported that he and Ray had visited 2 Shoestrap Road. Tim has chatted with the realtor, and has contacted Jennifer Goodman, who agreed that such a historic property can be "advertised" in the NH Preservation Alliance publications. The Heritage Commission commends him for his effort to find a sympathetic buyer who will restore, not remodel this fine example of a home with many of its historic features in tact.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Wadsworth