

LYME HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 23, 2015 7:00 p.m.
LCA Meeting Room

PRESENT: Ray Clark, chair; Adair Mulligan, vice chair; Jane Fant, Tim Cook,; Laurie Wadsworth; Patty Jenks, selectperson; Jane Eakin, alternate; Pat Erwin-Ploog,, alternate
ABSENT: Rick Pond, Ian Smith

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Chair Ray Clark.

1. **Approval of Minutes** Minutes from the May 28 meeting were unanimously approved.

2. **Inventory Report Update:**

- Ray presented the proof copy of the almost-finished Summary Report, to the ooohs and aahs of all Commissioners. This is our last chance to make changes. The cover is not quite correct, so **Ray** will notify the publisher of the change needed. Everyone took a brief look, and **Jane** agreed to take it home to do the final proofread.
- **Publication specs review:** Soft-bound glossy, 100 copies @\$14, to be sold for \$20, with free copies for donors and Town officers.
- **Publication date:** Ray reported that to get copies for sale by July 4, for the Town's Festival on the Common, would cost an extra \$350, so Commissioners agreed that there is no need to do that. Instead, we will set up a table with a display copy and take orders at the July 4 Festival. **Laurie** will send an e-mail to all Commissioners to sign up to man the table in shifts.
- **Advertising:** **Adair** offered to make a flier and a small poster. She will also put an "ad" in the Lyme Historians' newsletter, which will go out mid-July. **Jane** will write a short blurb which **Patty** will send out on the Listserv a few days before July 4, informing Townspeople to look for our display at the Celebration.
- **Taking orders:** **Patty** agreed to take orders and, after the copies arrive, to sell them from the Town Office. She will track the sales, and give the money directly to Dina for deposit in the Heritage Commission's Operations Fund. (See below)

3. **Lyme Historic Assets Fund**

- **"What next?"** A donation has been made, so the Commission needs to decide how to promote the idea to property owners, how applications would be evaluated, how to develop standards, how funds would be distributed, etc. An initial step is to find out how other agencies do this, and whether there are any other NH towns with a similar program that we can learn from. **Adair** will find out about LCHIP (Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, through the State of NH) and **Tim** will ask Beverly at the NH Preservation Alliance for other possible models.
- **Hodes Farm barn:** Ray proposed that a first project might be to get involved in the restoration of this historic barn on East Thetford Road. The barn, with a 52-acre lot, has recently changed hands, and perhaps the Heritage Commission could work with the new owner to develop a facade easement for the barn (only the barn), or advise him about a preservation consultant. Although this project does not present a need for funding, it would be a way to "dip our toes in the water" and learn the process.

- Ideas for future projects: Commissioners brainstormed ways to advertise the Fund, and to possibly approach present owners with an offer to help with their historic property. A few properties were briefly discussed. We might decide to come up with a list of Lyme's most significant historic properties, or those whose historical integrity may be threatened, and work from that list.

4. NH Div. of Historic Resources – Pre Disaster Planning Grants

Patty had forwarded information from Margaret Caudill-Slosberg, Lyme's Emergency Management Director, about these grants to all Commissioners. Tim had researched it and discovered that the funds would be directed to historic properties in danger of disaster, such as flooding. Since we could not seriously think of any qualifying place in Lyme right now, we decided to file the information away for reference.

5. Discussion of Future HC work:

- Interior photo documentation – Since Jane E. is a realtor, and has access and permission to photograph houses for sale, we decided to concentrate on those for now. For instance, she passed out information about Lyme houses that have sold in the last month, two of which are in our inventory. Much discussion ensued about how to identify other appropriate sites, such as those in need or in danger of being destroyed.
- Digital mapping of historic resources – Ian Smith has offered to help get us started on this long-term project.
- Other possibilities –
 - What are our most intriguing historic resources?
 - Deed research – really needed
 - Which are our most historic homes?
 - Get the surviving stone culverts listed on the state register of historic places.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 28

(Adair will be away)

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Wadsworth, secretary