

LYNDEBOROUGH HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 23, 2011, Tarbell Library

Members present: Stephanie Roper, Jessie Salisbury, and Jen Dumont.

Jen opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes of May 31 were approved by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS

The railroad station foundations were discussed. It was agreed the portions that are visible should be defined by some type of annual plantings and the space declared “no parking.”

It was agreed that a sign should be made containing the history of the site. Questions asked include: should it be near the present “South Lyndeboro” sign; should it be one- or-two sided; how much history should be included – just the second railroad station, both stations, Armory Hall, and the original site of the church?

Signs such as those posted around Wilton by their Heritage Commission were suggested.

Members will come up with suggestions for the sign, to be shared by e-mail, and discussed further at the next meeting on July 28.

STONE ARCH BRIDGES

Scott Roper has said he is willing to do the required research and write the application for the two bridges on Old Temple Road to be included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Authority for him to proceed was granted on a motion by Jen, seconded by Stephanie.

MEMORIAL ITEMS

A letter dated 1988 prompted the commission to wonder how many items, trees, etc., have been given in memory of a towns person and records of them no longer available. The letter from Ernie Kallman to the Lyndeborough Center Historic Preservation Restoration Association notes that when the new steps were installed at the library a wrought iron railing made by Ernest vanHam and given in memory of E. Foster Knight had been removed and the trustees were offering it to the church for installation during renovations of the Center Church.

Members recalled the cannon on the Common was given in memory of Alonzo Hartshorn; the three maple trees at the Town Hall, planted in 1976 as part of the national bicentennial celebrations, were dedicated to the three N.H. signers of the Declaration of Independence, Matthew Thornton, Josiah Bartlett, and William Whipple; according to tradition, the catalpa tree on Putnam Hill Road opposite the common was given to the town by Walter Patterson in the early 1900s following a trip to the mid-west. A request will be made to the town for other memories because remembering a memorial is “too late if the object or tree has been removed.”

OTHER

The Village Common Committee is trying to improve the looks of the whole area, not just the space around the war memorials. That committee is embarking on a fund-raising campaign.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary