

LYNDEBOROUGH HERITAGE COMMISSION

August 30, 2012, J.A. Tarbell Library

Members present: Jessie Salisbury, Stephanie Roper, Bob Rogers Jen Dumont, and Lee Mayhew
Also Scott Roper

Jen opened the meeting at 7 p.m.

There was no formal agenda.

The minutes of June 28 were approved on a motion by Bob, seconded by Jen

Scott presented and discussed a copy of his “Architectural History and Cultural Inventory” of the Town Hall. He said the survey was necessary for the Commission (and the town) to apply for grants.

The building, constructed in 1845, represents four construction periods and “a lot of alterations.”

He said the purpose was to have a record of what is there and when it was constructed, for use by future historians and restorers.

His research has found that the common area in front of the hall, town pound and church may still be an active right-of-way since the road was moved away from the hall in 1840 and he could not find that it had been discontinued. He suggested that area be left clear of anything other than perhaps benches.

While the field behind the hall is not part of the Historical District, it should be considered for any future construction: larger buildings such as a fire station should be located near the former town barn.

The Heritage Commission is a partner with the Historic District Commission.

OLD HOUSE PROJECT

Stephanie said she had completed most of the western side of town, Lyndeborough Center and the Village area, approximately 78 buildings, except for pictures, and described her methodology, which includes detailed historical and architectural aspects from town records and old maps.

Jessie has completed the eastern part of town, from Cemetery Road including Curtis Brook Road, Johnson's and Perham Corners, as well as part of Putnam Hill Road, using only the 1905 history and interviews with older residents, about 43 buildings.

Bob and Jen have completed 17 houses in North Lyndeborough and not yet completed the south side of the mountain.

It was agreed that a common format needs to be established, but none was decided upon.

It was decided to talk to Eric Yanone, supervisor of the high school's Senior Projects, to see if there are any students interested in doing the required research work.

Bob said he would mentor any such student.

WALLACE DOLE MONUMENT

Jessie announced that the date "1974" has been added to Wallace Dole's Gravestone in the South Yard, and provided a picture. Stephanie will send a letter with the bill to the Board of Selectmen, as suggested earlier by Burton Reynolds if we have expanses. The work was done by Medlyn Monument Co. of Milford.

RAILROAD BOOK

Jessie reported that 31 copies have been sold so far and that the Historical Society is holding \$120 for the Commission toward the purchase of historic markers for the common and railroad station site.

OTHER ITEMS

Lee asked about warrant articles to form a non-lapsing account for the Commission, also an annual appropriation, and who would talk to the Committee? He suggested that someone talk with Walter Holland prior to meeting with the Committee. A letter should be sent to the Bud Com before the Commission meets with them, explaining what the Commission does and why funds are needed.

It was noted that the Commission has never been invited to meet with them. Lee will prepare sample articles.

Scott said a public hearing is required before any structural work can be done at the Center hall. The selectmen have said no work will be done until fall.

The selectmen have also said that work would be done by volunteers under the direction of Phil Brooks, and that the required engineering approval has not been obtained.

Lee suggested Scott make an appointment to talk to the Selectmen about the study and the work, and remind them they can't do anything without a public hearing.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 27, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary