

**Stratham Heritage Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of April 11, 2012**

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM

Present: Dave Canada, MJ Werner, Nancy Hansen, Nathan Merrill, Rebecca Mitchell

Minutes of the March meeting were approved

OLD BUSINESS:

Veterans' Garden: Following approval of the budget, Rebecca is proceeding with the lighting plan, working with Dave Kramer.

Planning/Town Center: Nadine Petersen, Preservation Planner at the NH Division of Historical Resources, will be in Stratham on April 17 to meet with Lincoln Daley and Rebecca and to tour the town. Rebecca has asked new Commission member, Janet Johnson, to join them. The plan is to follow that with a larger meeting with Ms. Petersen attended by the Planning Board, Town Center Committee, Heritage Commission and other interested parties. That meeting had been tentatively scheduled for May 2, the regular Planning Board meeting time. However, MJ pointed out that a full agenda for that meeting would seem to preclude a productive discussion of historic districts and other preservation planning options. Rebecca will work with Lincoln to find an alternate meeting time.

Wiggin Memorial Library:

All the materials for nominating the WML to the NH Register of Historic Places have been submitted. Rebecca researched and recommended period appropriate lighting to replace the fluorescent tube fixtures that are more than 50 years old. Pending consideration by the Stratham Historical Society, the final decision rests with the Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: Rebecca suggested that members take a look at the council's just published report, "Measuring the Economics of Preservation: Recent Findings." Nathan noted the value of having facts and figures to better argue the case for preservation, and suggested sending the link to the full report and the shorter version from the Council's website, <http://www.achp.gov/>

New Member: The Commission welcomes new member, Janet Johnson, whose decade of experience on the Planning Board and interest in photography will be valuable to our work.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Stratham Clean Up Day is Sat., April 14

Stratham Historical Society Appraisal Day is Sunday, April 15, 1-3 PM

Stratham Historical Society program on Thomas Wiggin and Wiggin genealogy is Monday, April 23, 7 PM at the fire station Morgera Room

NEXT MEETINGS MAY 9 AND JUNE 13

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Mitchell