

**Stratham Heritage Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of May 9, 2012**

The meeting convened at 7:30 PM

Present: Dave Canada, MJ Werner, Florence Wiggin, Nathan Merrill, Janet Johnson,
Rebecca Mitchell

Minutes of the April meeting were read approved

OLD BUSINESS;

Wiggin Memorial Library: The Commission's nomination of the Wiggin Memorial Library to the NH Register of Historic Places was successful. It was one of three nominations approved in the latest round and the first property in Stratham to be listed on the NH Register. A May 8 article in the Exeter News-Letter neglected to mention both the role of the Stratham Heritage Commission and the upcoming 100th Anniversary celebration of the WML. Rebecca was asked to draft a letter to be sent to the EN-L.

The Commission approved the purchase of the NH Register plaque. Positioning of the plaque will be decided in consultation with the Historical Society and the Selectmen. Florence and Rebecca are working on the informative community displays that will be at the fire station as part of the July 14 WML 100th Anniversary celebrations. The Commission's display will focus on the Town Center, and will be re-used at the Stratham Fair.

Town Center: Rebecca and Janet reported on the visit of Nadine Petersen, NHDHR Preservation Planner, and her meeting with them and Lincoln Daley. There was a discussion of the NH Community Planning Grant Program, Neighborhood Heritage Districts and their potential applicability to the Town Center. Dave will share information on the grant program with the TC Committee.

Planning: MJ promoted the May 30th community meeting on municipal water and sewer. Nathan will be speaking on the Gateway planning process at that meeting.

300th Anniversary: Florence discussed current work of the committee including the May 12 community yard sale. The Commission agreed to turn the sales of postcards over to the anniversary committee. Janet will work on the production of future postcard

Veterans' Garden: Dave Kramer estimates that the lighting work will be done by Memorial Day.

NEW BUSINESS:

Real Estate: There was a discussion of various properties currently listed for sale. Several members expressed concern over the lot at 5 Emery's Lane. Rebecca was asked to consult with Andrea Lewy and Lincoln Daley about the potential for development on that lot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

May 14, Stratham Historical Society Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner, 6 PM

May 31, program on caring for old houses sponsored by NH Preservation Alliance and the American Independence Museum at the Folsom Tavern, Water Street, Exeter, 7 PM

NEXT MEETING JUNE 13

Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Mitchell