

## December 11, 2014 Heritage Commission Minutes

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on December 11 in the Whitney Hall conference room. Those in attendance: Linda Jones, Shirley Green, Celie Aufiero, Suzanne Hinman, Mary Ann Haagen, Marjorie Carr, and Meredith Smith, Chair.

Meredith informed the Commission of the possible creation of a permanent town committee for Old Home Days. Steve Schneider joined the meeting briefly to explain the impact of such a committee. He explained that it would ease communications with town employees such as police, book keeping, and DPW and give Old Home Days greater status with the town. Meredith will go to the Selectboard meeting on December 15 to ask that a permanent Old Home Days Committee be established. The Old Home Days Expendable Trust Fund will continue unchanged.

Celie mentioned the minutes of the Selectboard meeting of November 3, 2014 regarding the lakefront park/underpass area. The minutes reflected rather discouraging information from NH DOT; that the present temporary road was perhaps going to be the permanent solution to the underpass area. All agreed that this issue needs to be pursued to a mutually agreeable solution with the town, DOT, and Rail Trail. There was also concern that as many people as possible come to the January charette. Meredith agreed to talk to Scott Osgood about putting it on List Serve and other publicizing venues.

Linda brought up the old town reservoir being made into a park. Neighbors are not in favor.

A discussion of possible projects for the Commission in 2015 resulted in Mary Ann Haagen suggesting documenting Enfield's mill history using the Norwich, VT project as a model. Norwich has used large photographs as a pictorial history in addition to the text. Meredith cited the example of the recent "The Way We Work" exhibit at AVA Gallery as part of the Smithsonian project on work. Suzanne asked where photos would be exhibited. A suggestion was made to invite Chad Finer to come to a meeting to get us going.

Meredith asked about the Main Street walking tour brochure. Apparently no one at EVA has been able to locate it. Both Suzanne and Mary Ann have copies which they will send electronically to Meredith to pass on to EVA.

Linda Jones brought up the issue of design guidelines. She suggested going over the Somersworth guidelines and pulling up possible projects that we could use as a starting point for guidelines in Enfield. Mary Ann noted that planning and zoning can make exceptions, especially with historic properties. Once again it was questioned as to how the Family Dollar Store got away with building such an unattractive and inappropriate structure. All assumed the TIF District had design specifications which would not have allowed such a building. Meredith will ask Scott to provide TIF District guidelines to the Commission. The Commission has concerns that such buildings as Family Dollar are inappropriate for Enfield and do not reflect the spirit of a classic New England town.

Meredith brought up usage for Enfield Center Town House; that Old Home Days will use it for the dance this year. This brought up a general discussion of potential uses for the building. No one seems to know precisely how much land surrounds the building that is owned by the town or what it would cost to acquire enough land to make the building fully usable (septic, well, and parking). It was agreed that the town needs to get specifics on the surrounding land and what might be possible.

Finally, it was suggested that the plaque program marking historic properties be revived. Meredith said EVA would not have money to contribute as they had in the past. It will take money from the Heritage budget to begin marking historic properties once again. The cost would be around \$300 per marker. Meredith said it was doubtful property owners would pay for a marker and that the cost would have to come from other sources such as Heritage.

The meeting adjourned at 5 PM. (Note that this meeting was held at an earlier time of 4 PM for December, 2014 only.)

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair