

Enfield Heritage Commission December 13, 2018 Minutes

The Enfield Heritage Commission held its combined November/December meeting in the Whitney Hall Conference Room at 4:30 PM on December 13. Those in attendance: Mary Ann Haagen, Shirley Green, Linda Jones, Suzanne Hinman, Marjorie Carr, Celie Aufiero, Meredith Smith, and special guest Phil Walz, Executive Director of the Enfield Shaker Museum. The October Minutes were approved as written.

Mascoma Lakeside Park Update: Meredith gave a brief update on the park's second round of fund-raising efforts aimed at building a pavilion and other improvements. She reported that a letter has been sent to the Byrne Foundation requesting funding and other grants are in process.

Town House: Meredith reported that we are anxiously awaiting Jay Barrett's Facilities Study report. He has already said that the building is in a "condemned" state but that it is still salvageable. How to fund the necessary repairs with so many other pressing needs of the Town's other buildings remains the question. Meredith will ask that a solution be found to stabilize the building from further rot and deterioration until funds can be raised to do the renovations and upgrades to the building.

General Discussion of Heritage Goals: There was a lively discussion of various topics listed in the draft Heritage Commission Five Year Goals Meredith had circulated among the Commission. Phil Walz commented on the difficulties the Museum has experienced in dealing with LCHIP and the renovations of the West Meadow Barn and Mary Keane Chapel. He urged caution in accepting help from the LCHIP program. Meredith emphasized the value in "telling the Shaker Story"; that it was a major factor in bringing historic tourism to Enfield. Shirley Green commented that it was the only Shaker museum where tourists could stay in a Shaker dwelling house. Meredith suggested that as the new Master Plan was developed, it was important to have historic and cultural values included, especially in the area of economic development. The Commission will continue to review the draft goals and bring suggestions to the January meeting. Also relating to the discussion, Linda Jones, Shirley Green, and Meredith Smith attended a meeting with Mike Akillian, (Strategic Governance) Dan Kiley (Planning), and representatives from EVA the previous week to discuss the cultural aspects of the strategic governance study. They had reported the Commission's goal of attaining Certified Local Government status for Enfield with the group and explained the funding benefits of the program. In addition, they pointed out the various cultural opportunities Enfield offers with its Shaker Bridge Theatre, Shaker Museum, and the wealth of outdoor recreational benefits in its lakes and numerous hiking trails.

Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway: Meredith commented that Phil Walz had been sworn in as a member of the Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway Advisory Board which will be meeting in January for the first of its quarterly meetings. It is anticipated that the Byway will bring more tourism to Enfield as the Byway will now be included in State tourism maps

Certified Local Government Program: Meredith reminded the Commission that Nadine Miller from NH Historic Resources will attend the January Heritage meeting to explain the process of becoming a Certified Local Government town. It was felt that it is premature to invite others to that meeting.

Enfield Shaker Museum: Shirley reminded everyone of the Festival of Trees and the Sunday, December 16 party at the Museum when the trees will be raffled off.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair