

## Enfield Heritage and Historic District Commission

### April 23, 2020 Minutes

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on April 23 using the Zoom format. Those in attendance: Marjorie Carr, Suzanne Hinman, Shirley Green, Celie Aufiero, Mary Ann Haagen and Linda Jones via phone, and Meredith Smith, Chair. Ryan Aylesworth also attended for the first part of the meeting. The February minutes were approved as written.

Town House: Once again, the Enfield Center Town House dominated the conversation. Ryan presented the single bid for work to be done which (at \$69,000) was well beyond the funding at hand. He will have further conversations with the bidding company and ask what work they might do that would fit our budget. Meredith noted that both Andrew Cushing and Paul Mirski advocated raising the building temporarily to accomplish the work needed under the building. Mike Howard of Howard Construction, local expert at raising buildings, was strongly recommended. Ryan agreed to follow up with Mike. Meredith will send Ryan Mike's contact information.

Lakeside Park Update: Meredith updated the Commission on the progress with the pavilion design for Lakeside Park. She noted that Paul Mirski has created a very traditional design, resembling an elongated gazebo or band stand, that will fit into the surrounding neighborhood of 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture. To date, three local contractors have expressed interest in building the pavilion. The bids for construction are due May 1, 2020. Meredith expressed gratitude to Mr. Mirski for the design work which he has contributed pro bono to the Town.

Mill Heritage District: Linda Jones suggested that in these uncertain times, we put the Mill Heritage District on the back burner. All agreed.

EVA: Meredith said she has suggested to the EVA board that the woman who has an extensive flower display at the corner of Main Street and Shaker Hill Road be assisted in her efforts, perhaps even with financial help towards plantings. EVA has not made any decision on this matter. However, the Heritage Commission felt that the "Flower Lady's" efforts could be recognized by the Heritage Commission with an award at Town Meeting. Although not a preservation effort, the floral display certainly adds a great deal to the appearance of Enfield Village's National Historic Register District. A vote to present the "Flower Lady" with an award was passed unanimously.

Train Depot Photos: Meredith mentioned that Brian Degnan looking for photos of trains with people in picture to decorate the walls of the laundromat. Linda Jones has sent Brian numerous photos and links to the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society. Mary Ann Haagen mentioned that she may have some photos that he might be interested in. Meredith will send Mary Ann Brian's contact information.

Mascoma Valley Preservation: Linda Jones gave a comprehensive update on the activities of Mascoma Valley Preservation. They have just been gifted 175 acres in East Grafton which also includes several derelict structures, one of which is a 19<sup>th</sup> century mill. Other projects include a small chapel in Grafton and the Grafton Meetinghouse. Linda noted that funds are urgently needed for a grant match for the Meetinghouse. The MVP has indicated support for the Enfield Center Town House, although no actual funds would be involved.

Enfield Shaker Museum Report: Both Shirley Green and Mary Ann Haagen reported on the Enfield Shaker Museum. Like so many non-profits, they are struggling with the effects of COVID 19. Usual major events such as CAMS and the Forum have been canceled or postponed. Weddings that typically bring in funds to the Museum have also been canceled. All Museum programs are either canceled or postponed. It is hoped that the Forum might take place in August. However, those people who signed up for the April date may not be able to accommodate the August date change. Mary Ann brought up the possibility that people might be asked to donate their deposits to the Museum. Mary Ann also suggested that another possibility in the future might be a program the IRS instituted post Katrina where people could double their tax credit for a charitable donation.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair