

The Enfield Heritage Commission met via Zoom on May 27, 2021. Those in attendance: Mary Ann Haagen, Shirley Green, Marjorie Carr, Celie Aufiero, Linda Jones, Suzanne Hinman, and Meredith Smith, Chair. The April minutes were approved as written.

Lakeside Park Update: Meredith gave an update on the construction of the pavilion at Lakeside Park and a summary of current issues at the park, the most pressing being access to the Rail Trail from the park. Also updated were pending grant applications and the successful workdays held on May 14 and 15.

Whitney Hall: The Commission was informed that the proposed LCHIP application (as voted on at the April meeting) was not submitted due to lack of support from Library Trustees. Shirley Green, Library Trustee and Heritage member, said that the Library Trustees had no knowledge of the proposed LCHIP application. She went on to say that the Trustees felt stymied in their efforts to meet with the Selectboard and that their attempt to apply for Federal funds (stimulus?) had also been thwarted. As a result of the discussion, it became apparent that there was a lack of communication between all parties. All Commission members reiterated the need to address the pressing issues Whitney Hall is facing, especially basic maintenance.

Planning a Public Voice for Heritage: A lively discussion of how Heritage could improve communications with the community and better inform the public as to the role of the Heritage Commission brought several good suggestions. This is particularly important as the Town moves forward with the new Master Plan. Several suggestions were offered: improving the link on the Town web site with changing photos, putting the regular monthly newsletter articles (Madeleine Johnson) on Listserv, social media, and possible public informational meetings. Also suggested was sending articles of interest to the Valley News relating to historic topics of interest. The June 25 EVA coffee, hosted by Heritage will be an effort to promote and publicize the work of the Commission. Members signed up for various chores associated with this event.

Town House Discussion: A brief discussion of the Town House and acquisition of surrounding land was held. The Commission was reminded that this building is an important asset owned by the Town and should be included in master planning.

Master Plan: A lengthy discussion of the current master planning process raised several issues, especially related to overall development in the Town. Celie Aufiero, Master Plan Committee member, is responsible for the section that will address inclusion of places historical, cultural, and natural in the planning process. The question was raised as to how to connect economic development with cultural, natural attractions, and historic preservation. Sited were Enfield's rich history with the Shakers, mills, its National Register Districts, and the many historic buildings, abundant hiking trails and conserved land, the lakes, offerings for outdoor pursuits, and outstanding natural beauty.

Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway: Meredith gave a brief update on the Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway following the meeting held with Alex Belensz, UVLSRPC. The Byway is once again active, and it is hoped that the extension applied for over a year ago will soon be approved. Alex informed the Byway Committee that there will be Federal funds forthcoming for Scenic Byways. The committee, at Alex's suggestion, agreed to apply for funding for enhancements to Lakeside Park and signage for the Byway. It was noted that the Byway should be included in the Master Plan.

Mascoma Valley Preservation Update: Linda Jones gave a brief update on Mascoma Valley Preservation. They participated in the Canaan Town Wide Yard Sale and raised \$1700. Also, the "quilt panels" are being removed from the Grafton Meeting House and will soon be passed on to their new owners.

Enfield Shaker Museum Report: It was noted that the Museum recently completed its Spring Forum through a series of Zoom lectures.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair