

Enfield Heritage and Historic District Commission
May 26, 2022

(as corrected and approved at June 23, 2022rd meeting)

The Enfield Heritage Commission met on May 26, 2022, at 4:30 pm at the DPW building. Those in attendance were Marjorie Carr, Suzanne Hinman (alternate), Linda Jones, Celie Aufiero, Madeleine Johnson, Shirley Green, and joining electronically was Meredith Smith (Chair.)

Welcome and Introductory Remarks: Erik Russell was welcomed as the new Planning Board representative. Suzanne Hinman (alternate) was upgraded to voting status. The March Minutes were accepted as written. (No April meeting.)

Election of Officers: Meredith Smith was elected Chair by unanimous vote. Madeleine Johnson was elected Vice Chair by unanimous vote.

Discussion of the Responsibilities of Heritage Commission: Discussion about developing a regular reporting to the Planning Board. Members were asked to look at RSAs governing land use boards and how they relate to Heritage.

Enfield Center Town House: Building inspector Liam Ehrenzweig has gone through the building to assess repairs needed, providing an evaluation and estimates. He recommends addressing the stair access and railings to the main entry door and improving drainage around the building with site work to divert water coming down the hill into the brook. A \$20,000 Moose plate grant is being applied for which will be awarded in September.

Lakeside Park Update: Walking trails will be addressed prior to the parking lot resurfacing. A federal Land & Water Conservation grant will fund the trails. Ken Warren of the Rail Trail group has helped procure some signage. Two bike racks have been ordered. Some problems continue with bicycles riding through the pavilion, however the problems with trash have improved. There will be a handicapped porta potty this season with the Mascoma Sailing Club, Friends of the Rail Trail, and the Town of Enfield sharing the cost. Work on the wall along the shoreline is about to begin. Mike Burns bid on the job and will remove the old cribbing and put in a concrete wall. Patty Freid invited Henry Homeyer to visit and discuss plantings at the park. We are pleased to see that use of the park has increased. The Upper Valley Land Trust will have a second meeting there, and the Mascoma Lake Association will gather there June 18th.

Questions from David Fracht, Planning Board Chair, and responses. Meredith shared the questions and her responses.

Master Plan: Discussion on insuring representation of historic/ heritage/ esthetic issues in the plan and overcoming the misconceptions about historic preservation.

Sale of Town Owned Historic Buildings: Discussion of covenants to protect historic features on the sale of Enfield's town owned buildings. Meredith will write a proposal for review at the next meeting.

Covenants on sale of Town owned property: this is probably premature, but Commission needs to keep it on the radar. Note example of 18 High Street and how covenants can be effective and work towards benefit of the Town.

Preserving and protecting (from demolition) the two buildings slated for possible sale are the Depot Building and Union Street Fire Station. Reuse for present day use should be strongly encouraged.

Enfield has a well-defined railroad history intact with the three buildings that tell the story of the railroad in the Town; Passenger Depot, Freight Depot (Laundromat), and Hood Dairy Depot (Union Street Fire Station). All buildings are within the National Historic Register District, and all are eligible for NHR listing. Note that if listed, the buildings become eligible for the 20% Federal tax credit.

Old Home Days Participation: the EHC will open Enfield Center Town House for visitors. Hours TBA.

Mascoma Valley Preservation Update: Linda Jones reports the Grafton Center Meetinghouse, whose roof was a total loss due to fire, now has new roof beams and roof boards are being installed. New funding sources for MVP will be a Moose plate grant and participating in the Lebanon Poker Room charitable donation.

Enfield Shaker Museum Report: Shirley Green reports The Forum was in person this spring. 4th graders were once again able to attend the History Alive programs in person. The Museum will have a soft opening in June.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Jones, board member