

Wakefield Heritage Commission
June 4, 2008 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05, pm

Members Present

John Waitner, Ken Paul, Kelly Shea, Snooky Shea, Pam Judge and Joe Brejwo

Minutes

Were accepted with the "addition" that Pam had placed ad in the local papers for bids to paint the Union Station. Respondees will also be asked if they would like to bid on painting the Lovell Union Grange Hall.

Joe made a motion to accept the minutes for the May 21 meeting with the exception of the Union Station bid. Snooky seconded. Unanimous.

Correspondence

Pam received a memorandum from the Town Administrator in regard to the 2009 budget, which is due no later than September 2, 2008. She also received a letter from the National Preservation Alliance which contained information about global warming and going "green," as well as a letter from the Wakefield Parks and Recreation Department which was addressed to local businesses in regard to an Independence Day celebration on July 2. Activities will include food, ice cream, music and a fireworks display. They are asking for donations of \$100.00 or more. The Commission discussed this and decided a donation is not feasible at this juncture. Pam encouraged individual donations.

Financial

Pam gave the Commission members a handout which breaks down Fund 4. The anticipated Fund 4 balance as of June 3 is \$43,685.79.

Pam was able to provide final numbers for recent fund raisers. Proceeds from the White Elephant Sale are \$1,103.67. There are still several more large items to be sold, including storm doors. The total for the Pancake Breakfast was \$350.00.

Pam made a deposit on June 3 for \$1,453.67.

Pride Day, which was May 17, brought in \$650.00.

CLG Grant/Bridge/Canal

It had been voted at the last meeting that if Richard Casalla responded in the affirmative that the bridge is National Registry eligible, Pam would not proceed with the CLG grant. Pam had a lengthy discussion with him the morning after our meeting and Richard said that the bridge is definitely National Registry eligible. He expects to have the report to the Department of Transportation by October. This will allow the preservation of the stone bridge. Will know where to go with this and the canal after the report comes in.

In the fall, the Commission needs to revisit the canal. We would like to place it on the registry as well. A discussion ensued in regard to a possible walking trail with interpretive signage. Richard Casella thought it may even be possible to connect this resource with Somersworth as Great Falls Manufacturing was a Somersworth based company.

Pam spoke with Deb Gagne of the Department of Historical Resources. She thought this was a wonderful idea and a good way to promote the area.

Union Area Survey

Pam did not have any new news on this particular subject. She will get the report that is due in June together.

Heritage Beautification Project

Pam received permission from a homeowner to prune a tree which stands on his property. This has been done.

Spinney Meeting House Bid

Jim and Dan Perkins' anticipated start date is next week.

Union Station Bid

Five bids were received ranging from \$5,850.00 to \$10,500.00. The Commission discussed all bids in detail.

John made a motion that we pursue Aaron's Painting on the Union Station paintwork for \$5,850.00 excluding paint pending reference checks and confirmation of insurance. Snooky seconded. Unanimous.

The Commission discussed paint colors. Pam spoke with a number of people who live in Union. It has been determined through scrapings and personal memories that the station has been both gray and green, as well as yellow and red. We discussed the fact that which colors the station is painted, it must also be carried over to the freight house.

Grange Bid

At this point Ken Paul left the meeting. He returned after the following discussion and vote.

Four bids were received ranging from \$5,500.00 to \$8,000.00.

Joe made a motion to accept Aaron's Painting bid for \$5,500.00 pending reference checks and confirmation of insurance. John seconded. No opposition.

The members of the Commission discussed the possibility of allowing seasonal use of the Grange. The person or group that utilizes the building could be responsible for the utilities and/or charged rent. Insurance and liability were also discussed.

Old Wakefield Town Hall

The Commission will schedule a visit in the next week to look at the issues faced with the building. Joe will call to set up the appointment.

Heritage Day/Park

Heritage Day is August 9.

Pam and John spoke with Rose Gray. She will mow the lawn if able. If she cannot, Commission members will take turns. She also plans to rake the back area.

There was discussion about the removal of the back deck. This, as well as the exterior walls of the shed, must be removed prior to the end of June. Snooky, John, Bill, Joe and Ken (if needed) will be available to help. Phil Twombly has agreed to split the granite slab found on site to be used for front and back steps. This will also be done prior to Heritage Day.

We discussed possible activities for the day, which include exhibits, demonstrations, personal memories, stories, etc. Pam requested that members be thinking of activities and we will discuss the date for a planning meeting at our next regular meeting.

Pam called BP Signs in Milton to get an estimate for signs to publicize Wakefield Historical Commission projects. The cost for a large corrugated plastic sign is \$150.00. The large aluminum sign costs \$200.00. Posts and frames would need to be built on which to install the signs. The Milton Town House has a similar sign we should look at. 18x24, double-sided lawn signs were also discussed at \$50.00-\$75.00. Further discussion will ensue at next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10, pm.

The next meeting will be on June 18, 2008 at 7:00, pm at the Wakefield Town Hall.

Submitted by Kelly Shea