

Wakefield Heritage Commission

October 6, 2010

Members Present: Pam Judge (Chairperson), Phil Twombly, Peter Kasprzyk (Selectmen's Representative), Rod Cools, Snooky Shea, Nancy Hall (Alternate for Joe Brejwo), Valerie Ward (Alternate for John Waitner – until he arrived), Kelly Shea (Alternate), John Waitner (Vice-Chairperson – arrived late)

Members Not Present: Joe Brejwo, Barry Bishop (Alternate)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Minutes from the September 15th meeting were reviewed. Phil made a motion to accept the minutes of September 15th as written. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion passed with three abstentions.

Minutes from the September 22nd meeting were reviewed. Rod made a motion to accept the minutes of September 22nd as written. Phil seconded the motion. Motion passed with three abstentions.

Financials: As of the end of August there is 8.65% of the budget left for the year. Pam was informed that there has been \$1785.00 not reconciled since April 2010 for Fund 4. It will be reconciled this month as a credit to Fund 4 of \$1785.00.

Correspondence: We have received a post card and a monthly report from Preservation Alliance. The monthly report speaks of a preservation easement which would be very appropriate for the Siemon Dam in Union.

Also received is a bill for \$30.00/year to renew our membership to the National Historic Preservation. After some discussion it was by consensus this was tabled.

October 20th The Board of Selectmen will review the budget for the WHC. It will go before the budget committee on December 4th.

Pam has checked into purchasing the books on preservation for everyone and found the only thing currently available is a CD. After some discussion it was decided that Pam will purchase one CD and we will print out the information for each member. Each member will need to provide their own binder.

Union Station: The renovations on the inside of the Station are on hold until Phil and Bill complete work on the railcar. Phil wants the Commission to think about getting the septic tank pumped and putting in a filter for the water at the station. No one knows when the system was pumped last. Phil had Forest Pump and Filter do a water test and it came back with high iron and high PH. They recommended a filtration system costing in the range of \$2,500. Suggestion was made that an inline filter for iron could be installed instead. This will not take care of the PH. Rod will price this for budgeting and we will deal with it when the water is activated in the spring.

Bill Judge and Phil will winterize the water system at the Station by the end of the month. Rod will check on motion lights which are needed on the south end of the building. Pam had an email response from Victor Becker about the museum at the Station. Victor is interested in this project.

Plow Car: Bill and Phil have been working diligently on the plow car. All the windows and frames have been replaced or fixed. The owner, Terry, reimburses them for all materials they purchase.

Freight House: Pam has received the contract from the company whose bid was accepted for the work to be done on the Freight House. Pam signed the contract and now it will go to the Town Finance Office then to the Selectmen's meeting on Wednesday, October 13th. By Design should be able to start work after Thursday. The \$2,000.00 donation is \$200.00 worth of wood donated by Diprizio Lumber and \$1,800.00 of labor donated by the company By Design. The company has a trailer to haul the debris to the Transfer Station. There will be no charge at the Transfer Station to the WHC or the contractors.

Phil has been clearing out the saplings that hang over the roof of the Freight House. After discussion of renting a chipper, Peter thought he could get his tractor down there with the chipper attachment so we would not have to rent one. Bill has been removing some clapboard from the Freight House to facilitate the work as requested by the contractor.

Grant Update: Pam has completed the grant application and sent it to the DHR. She has been told that she could go ahead and advertise for a consultant for the job.

Other: Phil attended a workshop September 23rd on "Digitizing for Small and Medium Collections". He passed around an outline of the class. Discussion ensued. When it was said that a computer may be needed Peter suggested we ask the Town for a laptop that is not being used by the Town right now.

Historic Regulations: Pam explained the process and time frame for any changes we may want to make in our current regulations. The Planning Board Public Hearing is scheduled for Dec 2 for any zoning changes. We currently have Attorney Sager scheduled to meet with us on Nov. 17. If we want to consider any changes, we may want to adjust that date. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the Board needs a lot of education on many aspects of our required duties as well as other background on Historic District concerns. Many thoughts and ideas were mentioned. Peter suggested a letter should be sent out to everyone in the Historic District so everyone is aware of the rules and regulations. Peter also suggested photographs of the buildings be taken before and after any work is done on them. Pam suggested each member of the Commission look up other NH Historic Districts rules on the internet. Since most members of the Commission have not attended any educational programs for Heritage Commissions and their responsibilities, it was unanimously decided that a lot of work in this area should be undertaken before we propose any zoning change. We should educate ourselves and also Historic District residents first. Peter made a motion that the second meeting of each

month all regular business stops at 8:00 and training begins and goes for at least 30 minutes. John seconded the motion. After lengthy discussion on details and goals the motion passed unanimously. The next meeting's goal will be to provide the basic information Pam deems appropriate and discuss same as we add pages to our own binder. She encouraged members to email or call her if they had any particular requests. Future goals will be to educate ourselves and to educate the Historic District residents.

Motion to adjourn at 9:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Ward, Secretary