

## CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 23 March , 2010 7:00 pm  
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Eric Lutz, Barbara Jones, Terry Spilsbury, Carol Clark, alternate Aare Ilves

Absent: Joyce Higgins

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Chairperson Wesley Van Velsor.

1. Minutes for the 26 January, 2009 meeting were approved following a change in para 2: "Tree Commission" is to be replaced with "Tree Committee".
2. The "Welcome to Charlestown" sign initiative was discussed, including placement of the signs relative to the jug handle, CEDA industrial park area, and the Charlestown village. It was thought that the new signs could be similar to those recently placed in North Charlestown, with one new sign at the south entrance and one at the north entrance to Charlestown village. The signs placed in North Charlestown cost approximately \$800. each. Further suggestions included what to put on the signs, and the dates of charter, settlement, and the fortified area were discussed. Possible sign placement at the jug handle was deferred until the next meeting. Once agreement is reached regarding sign wording and placement, the Heritage Commission will go to the Planning Board with its proposal. Since the Charlestown Women's Club paid for the signs currently placed at either end of the village, the Commission will inform them of this initiative relative to the signs.
3. Aare distributed the current Heritage Commission financial report for 2010, to include general funds, 3<sup>rd</sup> town history project, and the tree funds. Aare reviewed these reports with the members, and it was moved that the reports be filed for audit. General funds available are \$2,141.05, and it was moved that the Commission would request release of \$2,000.00 from the trust funds (Capital Reserve Fund) for use during the next six months for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlestown History project expenses. It was approved to expense funds of \$361. 74 for February Town History expenses and \$128.00 for copies of the genealogy form for the same project.
4. The 2010 budget request warrant article was approved.
11. Discussion was held regarding possible placement of benches in appropriate public areas in town. The old benches are at the town shed with the metal frames in tact but in need of new slats. It was mentioned that in the past there was noticeable vandalism with regard to the benches and that the town had removed the benches following these incidents. Further discussion was deferred to a later date.
5. The revised Letter of Understanding between the Charlestown Heritage Commission and the Charlestown Historical Society was finalized and Terry Spilsbury will deliver the Letter to Eric for signatures.

6. Eric provided an update on the Third History of Charlestown project, saying that he was pleased with the progress over the past two months. Genealogy forms were given out during the voting process, and were also sent out with the Town's Inventory forms to save postage costs, and many forms have already been returned. The project sub-committee is in the process of writing to town organizations to obtain appropriate stories of their organization to include in the 3<sup>rd</sup> history. Received information is entered into the 3<sup>rd</sup> history database, and an updated disk is then sent to Eric.

7. Barbara wrote two articles for Our Town, one of which was included in the current edition. Eric wrote an item thanking the townspeople for their support in passing the 2010 warrant article, and this item was sent to Brenda and Pat to be included in the next Our Town.

8. Wes has been initiating efforts to include the cannon in the Old Home Day parade, and he was able to contact someone who might be able to provide oxen to pull the cannon. The Commission approved the use of oxen for this task, and Wes offered to manufacture whatever is needed to affix the oxen to the cannon frame. It was mentioned that any Heritage Commission exhibit items will be in the Town hall for display during the Old Home Day festivities to be held on July 24, 2010.

9. Ideas for the subject matter for the 2010 essay contest were discussed, and it was decided that we would use the same subject matter as last year, namely essays of interviews with long-term Charlestown residents. It was moved that Terry and Carol take this on as a project and work with the Charlestown Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. Eric will provide the template used from last year, and find out if the Historical Society will make these essays a focus of one of their upcoming meetings.

10. Barbara Jones indicated there was no news regarding the Fort at #4.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for April 27 at 7:00 pm at the Bakery building. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Clark

unapproved minutes

