

**CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE AND HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 28, 2015**

Present: Joanne Hipp, Wes Van Velsor, Duane Wetherby, Sue Richardson, Joyce Higgins. Absent: Sue Coleman, Art Grenier, Tamara Golden, Alternate

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Since Sue Coleman was absent, there were no minutes to approve. Sue Richardson presented the treasurer's report, which was approved. Check requests were signed.

Wes reported that the bench project is on hold until spring.

Officers for next year were discussed. Sue Coleman will repeat as secretary, as agreed at the early February meeting. Duane Wetherby volunteered to be treasurer, but will consider becoming chair. Joyce does not want to repeat after two years as chair.

The Selectboard has requested our input on the application of Jay Fisher for a barn tax incentive for his barn on Wheeler-Rand Road. The barn is old enough and original enough to qualify, and the consensus was to write a letter to the Selectmen confirming its eligibility. Our letter advised having the building inspector examine the barn.

The middle school essay contest is underway, and there seems to be quite a bit of enthusiasm this year. We will be receiving the essays in early March and reading them to ascertain the winners in each grade. Sue Coleman is in charge of the project.

Wes reported he was unable to find oxen to pull the cannon in the Old Home Day parade. He will check on the availability of horses. Joyce will contact Bob Beaudry about the cannon and read information sent by Jeff Miller, former curator at the Fort at No. 4, regarding the cannon.

Joyce presented a draft of a possible letter to the editor deploring the Planning Board's decision not to put the historic district ordinance on the warrant. Following discussion, it was unanimously voted to send the letter to the *Valley News*, *Claremont Eagle*, and the *Keene Sentinel*.

It was decided to dispense with the March meeting, as several members will be unable to attend, and we will be busy working on the essay contest. The next meeting will be April 28.

Respectively submitted,

Joyce A. Higgins, Chair