

MINUTES
LYME HERITAGE COMMISSION
Approved 06/25/2013
May 28, 2013

PRESENT: Ray Clark, Rick Pond, regular members; Laurie Wadsworth, Tim Cook, alternates

ABSENT: Adair Mulligan, Jane Fant, regular members; Richard Vidal, selectperson

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the March 26 meeting were amended as follows:
#3, second sentence should read: "There was a discussion regarding the demolition of the Elder house on Dorchester Rd. and the Pushee camp on Post Pond Lane." [The ZBA does not "approve" demolitions.]

Note: There was no meeting in April; instead, many of us accompanied Liz Hengen on April 26 for her survey of the two Historic Districts.

2. **New member:** The Commission welcomed Rick Pond, who has been appointed to fill the spot vacated by the resignation of Charlotte Furstenberg. We gave him a brief oral overview of what the Commission has been doing since it was established in 2011. Rick grew up in Lyme, and is eager to "give back" to his town.
3. **Appointment of new Secretary:** Laurie agreed to try to do half as good a job as Charlotte has done over the last two years. We all recognize and thank Charlotte for her terrific organizational skills, for keeping us on track, for her frequent "spot on" observations, as well as the hours and hours she has spent organizing the Historic Resources Inventory, including setting up our system for identifying photos and typing in a lion's share of the forms. She will be greatly missed!
4. **Commission terms and rotations:** Ray reminded us that we are each appointed for three-year terms; Simon Carr set up staggered terms for those of us who were appointed in 2011. Ray will circulate that information.
5. **Update on files for Liz Hengen:** We had an extended discussion about the status of the inventory files.
 - Commission members, including Charlotte, have been working on completing the physical and digital files: typing in the final notes from Liz's survey of the Lyme Common and Lyme Center Historic Districts on April 26; organizing and labeling the digital photos from that survey; checking for background information in *Patterns and Pieces*, the historic maps, and the Arcadia book of historic Lyme photos; typing in pertinent information supplied by the property owners.
 - Ray took home all of the physical files in the blue crates. He will work on cross-checking them against the tax lists, as well as checking each for completion.
 - For safety, the (although incomplete) back-up thumb drive was placed in the Historians' safe in the Museum office. When Ray completes checking the original

thumb drive, he will make sure it is copied onto the back-up before sending the original to Liz.

- What to send along to Liz? We decided not to give Liz all the files that are presently in the blue crates, nor to spend the time and expense copying them for her.
- We decided that we will send her the original thumb drive, which contains all the inventory notes and labeled photos. As she reviews them, she may request more information about some of the properties – at that point, we can copy any additional photos, etc that we have. She could, for instance, make a date with Jane to look at, and possibly scan, the historic photos that have been scanned and are currently on the computer in the Historians’ office.
- Photos – This summer, we should take advantage of a low-price offer at one of the on-line photos services (such as “Snapfish”) and get physical copies of all of Liz’s photos to go in the physical files, for future access by the Zoning Administrator (Dave Robbins) at the Town Office for quick identification.
- Historic Photos: A long-term goal is to have a cross-reference in each file noting that there are historic photos of that property in the Historians’ files.
- Ray asked Laurie to make a preliminary “To Do List” for this summer and beyond. A copy is attached, ready for corrections and additions.

Agenda items #6-9: Due to the late hour and the absence of three members, we decided to table these items for a future discussion. (One note by Ray is included):

6. Plans for a public presentation
7. What to share with owners after completing inventory (Ray noted that we do not have the funds to copy and send all the files to each address.)
8. Design recommendations for historic owners contemplating renovation
9. Can the HC have a role of pro-active preservation?

10. **Other Business:**

- Tim photographed the exterior of Don and Julia Elder’s house, before it is demolished (soon)
- Is anyone in touch with Karen Keane, re her renovations of her new home on Market Street?
- Old Cape on Claflin Lane – Elmer Derby’s house is slated to be demolished by present owners to make way for a new guest house. The old house has been photographed by Liz
- Some further thoughts about our future role: instead of Ray and Tim attending future ZBA meetings, the HC could craft a simple letter to the Chairs of the Zoning and Planning Boards to clarify our role. Laurie will draft a letter to be distributed to HC members for input before the next meeting.

11. **Next Meeting:** 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 25th.

**Laurie will not be present so we will need someone to volunteer to write the minutes that evening.*