

MINUTES
LYME HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 22, 2014 7:00 p.m.
LCA Meeting Room

PRESENT: Adair Mulligan, vice chair; Rick Pond Laurie Wadsworth, alternate; Tim Cook, alternate; Patty Jenks, selectperson

ABSENT: Ray Clark, chair; Jane Fant

Meeting was called to order at 7:24 by Vice Chair Adair Mulligan. (We had to wait for the meeting room to vacate.)

1. Welcome to Patty Jenks. We are delighted to have Patty as our new representative from the Select Board.

2. Approval of Minutes Minutes from the February 25, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

Note: Tim is now receiving Minutes from Laurie via US mail. However, this month he did not receive the Agenda, from the Town Office. He will try to remedy that.

3. Inadvertent publicity in the *Valley News* Adair showed us the ad in the Real Estate section from April 12 for the house on 2 Shoestrap Road. (Several Commissioners had toured the house, which is also featured in the current edition of the *Lyme Historian*.) The ad listed some of its historic features and ended with "Listed on the Inventory of Historically Significant Houses of Lyme, NH." We agreed that this is a great message to send: being in the HC inventory adds value to your property! The ad has been added to our inventory file of this house.

4. Heritage Commission webpage Shortly after she was elected, Patty made sure our appointments are all up-to-date and listed correctly on the webpage. (Speaking of adding value...Thanks, Patty!) Our meeting time and summarizing paragraphs are also updated, and there is a link from the "Boards and Committees" page. Eventually, a copy of the Summary Report can be uploaded to our page.

5. Outline, content, and status of inventory publication Adair gave a brief overview of the process and current status of making the Inventory to bring Patty up-to-date. Laurie had given Patty copies of both the digital and print versions of the second draft, as well as a copy of the form we used. We showed her some sample files from Dorchester Road, and Patty offered to add to the file for #45, the house she grew up in.

Adair reminded us that our two main goals now are to get the Inventory published and get back to the property owners. It was noted, however, that Liz made her presentation of findings only five months ago, and none of us, including our Town Clerk Patty, has been questioned about the report.

Laurie reported on the work and suggestions made when she, Jane and Adair met to start the final edit of Liz's second draft. The three of them made good progress editing page-by-page. They also made a list of other items that should be included:

(not in any order: churches, cemeteries & tombs, bridges & culverts, taverns, schoolhouses, barns, cellar holes.) They recommend that instead of collecting a lot more data and photos, which would delay the publication and possibly make it too long, we reference other works by the Lyme Historians (barns inventory; schoolhouses booklet) and ask for short descriptions from related Boards, such as Church and Cemetery Trustees, and the cellar holes group of the Lyme Historians. Work to add to the Barns inventory could be done after the report is published. They also made a list of maps for the Table of Contents page.

Further discussion of this, as well as final format for the Summary Report, was postponed until the next meeting, when Ray is here. It was noted, however, that if the Report is to become a useful resource, it should be also indexed. Adair agreed to ask Jan Williams for a price.

Adair, Jane and Laurie will aim to finish the page-by-page editing by our next meeting in May.

6. Letter to owners of historic structures Adair had circulated an updated draft. Some changes were made to clarify that not every property is included in the Summary Report. We cannot send out the letter until we have the publishing date and price per copy.

7. Other business

Adair related her experience renewing her own barn easement in the State's Barn Easement Program. The letter from the [NH Preservation Alliance](#) arrived only days before renewal was due, so we are glad that we sent out an earlier notice to Lyme barn owners. When Adair submitted her application, she was asked to include a draft of a renewal easement. She discovered, while transcribing her original easement, drafted by Lyme's lawyer, that it included a paragraph that *has since been repealed by the State legislature*. This outdated paragraph stipulated that a fee must be paid to the town if the owner allows the easement to expire. Adair felt that Commissioners should know this in case we are asked about it. We should advise people to be sure that paragraph has been deleted before signing their renewal easements.

(Note: Lyme's own Dick Jones helped design the evaluation process that select boards now use for the Barn Easement Program, and thanks to that, many beautiful old barns still grace the landscape in Lyme and throughout the state.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Wadsworth, secretary