

LYME HERITAGE COMMISSION

Feb. 23, 2016 7:00 p.m.
LCA Meeting Room

PRESENT: Ray Clark, chair; Adair Mulligan, vice chair; Tim Cook, Jane Fant, Laurie Wadsworth; Jane Eakin, alternate

ABSENT: Rick Pond, Patty Jenks, select person; Pat Erwin-Ploog, alternate

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 by Chair Ray Clark.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The Draft Minutes from the January 26 meeting were approved.
2. **Terms of service:** According to the website, and Laurie's notes, the expiration dates of our terms are below.

Clark: March 2016 [Ray says he will run for another 3-year term]

Cook: March 2018 (as a full Board member)

Fant: March 2016

Mulligan: March 2017

Pond: March 2016 (has not attended meetings for a year; term expires)

Wadsworth: March 2018 (as a full Board member)

Eakin: alternate, installed March 2015

Erwin-Ploog: alternate, installed March 2015

Additionally, Ray offered to step down as Chair, but the Commissioners voted unanimously to continue to enjoy his leadership and good humor.

3. **Endangered or Critical Properties - Our "Top Ten" Nominations**

Patty had offered to compile our individual lists into one Master List, but in her absence we came up with the following properties that would probably be in the Top Ten: Hamilton House, Fairfield House (Poor Farm"), former Clark residence on Flint Hill. These three are of highest priority since they may soon be either sold or possibly destroyed. Our goal is to document the historic features of their interiors. **Laurie** agreed to contact the owners of the Hamilton House, after there is a "letter of intent" and form to sign:

Discussion also included ways to protect the owners' privacy while archiving their home. **Jane F.** will craft a "letter of intent" with a possible release form for the owner to sign — **Jane E.** will advise about a similar form used in real estate advertisement.

Decisions about storage and creating a digital record will be postponed until Pat E-P can advise us.

4. **Interior photo documentation of above; ListServe request**

Commissioners decided against putting out a request for historic homes to document on the ListServ. We will use our “Top Ten” list, which can be modified and augmented, to identify houses to document.

5. **A Historic Property**

The HC went into executive session to discuss this property.

6. **Report about visit to Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission office**

Adair and Jane F. went to this office since they seem to be the only ones who have an original copy of all the documents and photos from the nomination for the Lyme Common and Lyme Center National Historic Districts in 1986. They discovered that a windshield survey of the town had been done c. 1981-82, with Dorf Sears, with photos and thorough documentation of each property. (There was federal money to conduct this at that time.) Although Jane and Adair brought back a sampling, we can obtain a full color copy for a small fee. **Adair** will report to us what the fee would be, but Commissioners supported the proposal to fund it.

7. **Other business**

a.) Tim reported that Jay Barret is now cleared to begin the process of nomination of the East Thetford Bridge to the National Register. Laurie reported that Jay has not called the Historians to come look at our newly acquired records from the Gilbert Bridge Co. (proprietors of the original bridge).

b.) Parking lot on Lyme Common: The Selectboard has approved a warrant for town meeting that proposes making part of the western end of The Common, which abuts the school, into a parking lot for Lyme School employees. The Heritage Commission strongly opposes such a move, for several reasons: setting precedent; The Common is part of the Historic District; endangerment of the historic Hamilton House. Unfortunately, the Heritage Commission was not consulted, so it is too late for us to register our opposition in the report. (A continual problem is that we are not consulted about such decisions, and find out about them only after it is too late to offer our advice or opinion.) **Jane F.** will write a letter of opposition to: the Historians, the ListServ, and to be read aloud at Town Meeting.

8. Next meeting - Tuesday, March 22nd, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Wadsworth, secretary