

**Heath Historical Commission
Sawyer Hall, March 5, 2012**

Minutes

Present: Margaret Freeman, Nina Marshall, Pegge Howland, Carol-Anne Eldridge, Bill Lattrell

Guests: Art Schwenger, Aaron Hale, Evan Banville

The meeting was brought to order shortly after 7:00 PM.

1. Approval of Minutes for September 13, 2010. Minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion to approve by Margaret Freeman (MF), 2nd by Bill Lattrell (BL). No discussion. Unanimous approval.

2. Historic Signage. MF introduced two visitors from A&E Signs: Aaron Hale and Evan Banville. The Commission reviewed a handout and discussed the dimensions of the proposed signs to Heath Historic District, which would be approximately 38" tall by 22" wide. Colors were reviewed and the group selected Deep Green. The sign will have a powder coating that will look glossy. It will be made from PVC and will be rugged and durable. The group reviewed the computer mock-up and several changes were suggested. These are a) that the shape surrounding the logo at the top be more curved, b) that the bottom corners be squared, c) that the date be changed from 1875 to 1785, and d) that a white circle be added around the logo if we decide that it should be in full color.

A&E Signs will make to two mock-ups, one with a full color logo and the other with black and white logo. They will also be responsible to installing the signs. Therefore, the price includes poles and installation.

MF will check with Mike Smith at the Highway Dept to see if permission is needed for the installation.

Re location of the signs, it was agreed that six are needed. The group reviewed a map of proposed locations and agreed that the one on Branch Hill Rd should be moved to western side of WolfRd./Ledge Rd., to accommodate any future extension of the Historic District.

The quote that A&E Signs gave was for five signs, and therefore the addition of a sixth sign will raise the price of the order.

Carol-Anne Eldridge raised the question of the size of the signs. **Nina Marshall (NM) will consult with the Planning Board to confirm.**

BL raised a motion to present the budget request to the Finance Committee. Pegge Howland (PH) seconded, and the motion was approved. **MF will present the budget to the Finance Committee.** It will then go to the Selectboard and will have to be approved at Town Meeting.

3. Members of the Commission. MF formally recognized the excellent work of Jan Carr and Eric Grinnell, both no longer on the Commission, and she thanked them for their good work. MF had check with Chris Skelly and found that the Commission cannot have more than seven people on it. MF has asked Christine Luis-Schultz if she would join the Commission and she has accepted.

MF asked Art Schwenger to attend the meeting. He is interested and willing to work on various projects, but reluctant to join another committee, due to multiple time commitments. MF suggested that Art be involved in the Commission's oral history project. Art noted that Justin Lively has done some work on Heath history, and that he conducted numerous interviews. MF thanked Art for attending the meeting.

4. Storage shed. The group reviewed documentation from Eileen Tougas and discussed the proposed shed which would be made of T111 which is similar to fibreboard. MF expressed concern about the durability of T111 and explained that she had suggested "board and batten" to Eileen, noting though that this would be more expensive. Following further discussion on materials, shutters, and colors, BL brought forward a motion to approve Eileen's proposal. NM seconded and the motion was approved. In response to Eileen's request for advice on colors for the shutters, it was agreed that **MF would tell Eileen that green is the preferred suggestion, but that she would also ask whether shutters are needed at all.** We would like the building to be consistent with the look of the town, and most buildings in town do not have shutters.
5. Historic District Extension. Under this agenda item the group discussed the proposed extension of the historic district southwards, to include the Palmer-Hanney house and the Dyer/Merrill house. Apparently lots of information was collected on these two houses, but PH said that a lot of it was not included in the publication on Heath's houses that was prepared in support of the historic district designation. **MF will check with Carol-Anne about the Palmer-Hanney house, and she will check with Lisa Merrill about the Dyer/Merrill house, to learn about what additional information is available.**
6. DIY History Workshop. The group reviewed the document prepared by Christine Luis-Shultze (CS). MF reminded the group that we can develop workshops to help people research their own houses, and learn about heritage landscapes. At our previous meeting we said we would map out groups of houses so that we could bring people together to address

common themes or locations. In order to proceed, we need maps, and we need guidelines.

In reviewing the documentation, PH was concerned about the complexity and BL was worried that we would be taking on too much. MF reminded the group that Walter Gleason had already agreed to participate in a pilot study. PH would like to see something tangible and published arise from our work, and she noted that the Heath Historical Society could play a role in storing the documentation arising from the project. It was agreed that a) **MF should talk to Walt Gleason to see if they are still interested in participating**, and b) **BL will find a map of the Gleason property**.

BL suggested that our next meeting be devoted exclusively to figuring out the process. Art suggested that we come up with a list of questions, and most importantly, that we figure out how to deal with the many rich and varied stories that will be told during the process. He suggested that perhaps we do the stories first – these are the fragments of history that are most fragile. MF proposed that our next meeting cover questions, process, and how to record stories. PH noted that some people are quiet and private, and that having the involvement of Art would be really important.

The group discussion turned to stone walls. BL noted that he cannot find any law about stone walls, but MF has spoken to Margot and learned that removal of stone walls is definitely illegal. **MF will check with Margot and then post the information in Sawyer Hall.**

7. Space needs. We have been allocated one drawer. **MF will bring in the most relevant materials and put them in it.**
8. HHC website. There is the opportunity to include HHC information on the town website. Kara will assist us and **CS will prepare text.**
9. Next meeting. March 26th is set for the next meeting. There will be one agenda item – brainstorming on the new project (provided that Walt Gleason agrees).

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nina Marshall