

Historic District Commission/ Heritage Commission

Minutes of March 11, 2004

Present: C. Pynn, P. Schena, and M. Stoltz

1. Review and approval of September, October, and February minutes

M. Stoltz gave her approval to the September and October, 2003 minutes. However, there was no quorum of Commission members who attended each of the meetings for which minutes were reviewed. Accordingly, no minutes were approved at the meeting

2. West Windham Union Hall Follow-up

P. Schena reported that he had no further information from Mr. Sullivan's office concerning ownership and land use rights in or adjacent to the West Windham Hall Historic District.

3. Report on Land Use Change Tax Revenues

P. Schena reported that he had contacted the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance concerning the outcome of the hearings on proposed NH House Bill 1187 (to permit local communities to allocate a portion of their land use change tax revenues for use by heritage commissions). He advised that the proposed bill was not approved.

4. 22 March Board of Selectmen Meeting concerning Depot Advisory Committee

P. Schena reported that D. Sullivan had advise provisionally that a Commission representative was on the agenda of the Board of Selectmen's 22 March meeting for the purpose of requesting that the Board establish an advisory committee on matters related to Windham Depot.

Further to Windham Depot, Mr. Mark Samsel attended the meeting to update the Commission on the continuing work by the citizens group in the area. Mr. Samsel advised that a non-profit organization had been formed (the Windham Rail-Trail Alliance) and had applied for a CMAQ grant to rebuild the portion of the Rockingham Recreational Trail from North Lowell Rd. to Rt. 111. He explained that the project had private sector support, including donations by local contractors.

Further to the status of the buildings, P. Schena agreed to contact B. Sproerl of the NH Bureau of Trails concerning previous work by the NH Department of Historic Resources on the Depot site.

5. Presentation and discussion of correspondences and/or other new issues

A. Barlow attended the meeting to advise on exterior work required at the Bartley House. Specifically, Mr. Barlow noted that the roots of a tree and bushes on the west side of the building had grown into the inlet and outlet of the building's septic tank, that the pipes were compromised, and finally, that the tree, in particular, may jeopardize the building's foundation. Accordingly, he advised that the tree and bushes should be removed and suggested the bushes later be replaced with appropriate shrubs. The Commission considered this matter as required maintenance and expressed no concerns with the removal of the tree or the bushes and their later replacement with shrubs.

6. Review of plan/project submissions

The Commission reviewed a subdivision plan at 140 Rockingham Rd (8-B-3000) and the Bear Hill Subdivision Plan (20-E-250, 255; 20-D-307) and prepared remarks for submission to the Planning and Zoning Board.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted in draft form,

Patrick J, Schena
Chairman, Windham Historic District Commission