

HISTORIC DISTRICT/HERITAGE COMMISSION

Minutes January 10,2007

Members present: C.Pynn; K.Normington; B.Talbott; C.Webber

Excused: M.Crisler Selectman liaison

Guests: Sue Mesiti and Peter Zhodi

- Review minutes of December 11, 2006
Motion to accept by C.Webber, 2nd by B.Talbott
Motion passed 5-0
- **CIP update:** \$13,000, as requested by the HDC and the Rail/Trail Alliance, has been included in the CIP. This is a portion of the Town's overall 20% share of costs associated with renovations to the Depot Historic District. This was passed at Public Hearing on January 8, 2007.
- **Budget:** HDC/Heritage request for \$3000/6000 to hire an architectural and/or archeological intern this summer was rejected. The Commission feels it is important to professionally document historic structures in town. This would include photography, scale drawings and research. Dave Sullivan has offered to have his summer intern spend some time working with the Commission on this project on a limited basis. Part of this request also included money for signs to identify each of the five Historic Districts. The budget committee agreed with Mr. Sullivan to take \$1,000 from the general fund for this purpose. The HDC will contact Marshall and Hammar Signs for pricing and design. The signs will be approximately 3x2.
- **Demolition Delay Ordinance:** Zoning amendment or Town Ordinance? There is disagreement among Town department heads as to which it should be. Town counsel has reviewed the petition feels it is not enforceable as written. The second public hearing will be held January 10. C.Pynn will attend. The Commission feels that this simple idea has been made into a major project.
- 1. **Depot Advisory Committee:** C.Webber has been appointed as HDC liaison. The caboose will be moved into town land and will be restored. The committee is meeting with the BOS on January 29 to get approval for acceptance.
- **Village District:** Sue Mesiti and Peter Zhodi presented a conceptual plan and discussed planning for the area. In order to move the pound, that area must be fully researched. It was suggested that the pound be kept in the same area but shifted to allow for the road. In discussions with the NHDHR the Commission has learned that the area must be documented and researched by a professional archeological historian before moving any stones. This was discussed with Ms.Mesiti and Mr.Zhodi. They are aware of what needs to be done and will meet periodically with the Commission as plans progress.
- **Road name requests:**
 1. Request for road name off Bear Hill Road: the proposed name is "Southgate Drive". In keeping with the preferred use of historic names, the Commission suggests either Buttrick or Burnham (road, not "drive"). The Board of Selectmen will consider this at the January 29 meeting.

2. Request from Peter Zhodi to reconsider the proposed name of “Overlook” for the four lot subdivision at Castle Reach IV. The Commission would prefer “Walden” as previously proposed or “Alexander” as there were three families by that name in the area.
3. Range Road: The state is calling this portion Canobie Lake Road. The Commission feels that if this section must be renamed for safety reasons that a more historically correct name could be chosen. The DOT will be meeting with the Town on January 22 to discuss road name changes due to the 93/111 project.

- **Plan review/other new issues:** There were no plans to review.
 - C.Webber discussed the GPS flyover copies that will be available.
 - C.Pynn discussed the article written by Amy Baker-Santagate about Windham artist Mary Braddish Titcomb. This was published in a recent publication of the “Windham Life”. Amy is planning on writing a book about Titcomb, who was a noted artist in the late 1800’s.

Respectfully submitted in draft form,

Carol Pynn
Chairman, Windham Historic District/Heritage Commission