

*Historic District/Heritage Commission
Minutes June 13, 2007*

Present: Margaret Crisler Selectman liaison, Kay Normington, Carol Pynn Chair, and Beth Talbot, regular members; Nancy Kopec, Carolyn Webber, alternate members.

Review minutes May 9, 2007: motion to accept as written by C.Webber, 2nd by M.Crisler. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- *HDC/Heritage record storage:* Ms. Crisler stated that David Sullivan has agreed to allow the Commission to store records upstairs in the Bartley House once renovations are complete.
- *Letter to the Planning Board* regarding the recently passed New Hampshire HB42 has not been responded to. This bill includes historic resource protection in the Master Plan. Discussion in point is the “Willows” development where there are stone walls. The developer has been directed to keep all stones onsite to be reused there. If this was in the Historic Resource section of the Master Plan protection would be better served.
- *Range Road renaming:* the Commission is not in favor of changing the name of this historic section of roadway. Motion by C.Webber to keep the name Range Road as is and to name the new section in any way the State wishes. 2nd by all. Motion passed 5-0. Members will send a letter to David Sullivan and cc to Chief Lewis. This should be discussed with the appropriate people at the State and Town levels.
- *Historic Resource Lists:* Discussions continuing for updating lists. The Commission will contact David Sullivan regarding his offer to “share” his intern to help with the Archeological Sites List.

New Business:

- *Searles School and Chapel rear courtyard design:* The Searles Historic Commission wishes to use stone pavers to make an improved walkway from the parking lot to the rear door. Landscaping is also planned. Although a plan was submitted two years ago, the HDC had requested an updated plan. There was no plan to review for this meeting. It was also noted that damage has been done to the stonework in this back area. A crowbar was found there that had been used to pry some very large granite pieces apart from the wall. It was felt that Chief Lewis and David Sullivan should be notified of the vandalism. C.Pynn will write and letter and speak to him personally.
- *Windham High School groundbreaking:* Daphne Kenyon has requested information about the London Bridge Causeway and area. She would like this to be read as part of the ground breaking ceremony this fall. C.Webber is putting information together about the history of the bridge and the area. It was noted that the causeway was probably the first major public works project in town.
- *Foster’s Pond:* It was noted from recent Planning Board minutes that the dam at Foster’s Pond was crumbling. The property (0-1-C-2500) is on the Historic Resource List but the dam is a newer structure and is not a concern to either the Heritage or Conservation Commission. The historic structure on the list is a cattle pass that was used in the railroad days. Members of Heritage will walk there to find where it is and assess condition for the list.

- *Caboose update:* C.Webber updated the Commission on the status of the caboose which along with its wheels (trucks) recently arrived at Windham Depot. It came from Lawrence, MA via route 495 and 93, then to Rt 111 and Lowell Road, by flatbed truck. It is now welded to 49.5 feet of railroad track. The track was laid by members of the Depot Advisory Committee. It is a 1936 B&M caboose and will retain its original colors of blue sides, red ends and black cupola, along with the B&M and minuteman logo. Landscaping for the area has been donated and restoration of the depot buildings will begin once the state and town trucks and equipment are removed. The buildings (not the caboose) are in our newest Local Historic District, having been voted in at Town Meeting March 2003. M.Crisler will contact the DOT regarding the new salt shed.

Communication:

Notice from NHDHR that the Hollis HDC is hosting a program by Charles Allen Hill. He will be discussing additions to historic buildings. The Commission was very interested in this program and would like to pursue the possibility of asking him to speak here. The Historic Society or the library might be interested in co-sponsoring. C.Pynn will contact Linda Wilson at the NHDHR.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday September 12, 2007 at 4pm at the Planning Office.

Respectfully submitted in draft form.
Carol Pynn, Chair
Windham HDC/Heritage Commission