

**MERRIMACK HERITAGE COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Ralph Gerenz, Chip Pollock, Anita Creager This forms a quorum
Absent: Lon Woods, Liaison Finlay Rothhaus

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: January Minutes Approved

MEMBERSHIP: No response to letter sent to Sean Sylvester, who has now been removed from membership on the Commission. Anita will contact Kristen to have his name removed from the bulletin board and have Chip's included. One more member plus alternates still needed for the commission. Need to address active search.

OLD BUSINESS:

Welcome signs: New welcome signs on order and should be installed in Spring.

Historical Home Plaques: Status. Signs have arrived. Will request Town Council to schedule time to present them at a meeting on March 15. We will deliver and install those not presented at this meeting. Anita will send full list of owners and addresses to members.

The locations are at:

3 Jennifer St.
10 Griffin St.
68 Joppa Rd.
150 Joppa Rd.
9 Harris St.
45 Turkey Hill Rd.
7 Fuller Mill Rd.
20 Fuller Mill Rd.
11 Hadley St.
5 Loop Rd.
9 Loop Rd.
11 Loop Rd.
23 Loop Rd.
25 Loop Rd.
27 Loop Rd.
401 Daniel Webster Highway

ONGOING:

Corn Crib: No longer a consideration, since it has been moved to private property.

Dam/History/Trail/Chamberlain Bridge sign: No current activity. On hold until town can act on construction at site.

Hall Roof Slates; Ralph has made a larger version of the town seal stickers. Has located a craftsperson who will mount them on the slates and decoupage them. Suggestion made to donate one to Historical Society speakers.

Upham Road development: No further information. Documents seen at meeting with plans for development. Titled: Hazen Property. Lots 4-B-114- and 114.2. Anita has left a note for staff to consider protection of site of Fuller's Mill. Chip will plan a field trip to the site when the weather allows.

Old King's Highway:

Field trips planned on April 23 or 24 to also include Ruth Marcel. See new business below.

Thornton's Ferry/ Sklar Park: We will be involved with subcommittee to make plans. Anita will locate railroad plans, showing location of Lutwyche/Thornton home. Consider possible scans for past building locations and archeological digs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual report Anita submitted. Will give formal report to the Town Council on March 15.

Request donation from winner of lottery: Anita will write to the lawyers for the Trust set up by the lottery winner, asking for consideration of major donation to the heritage Commission and Historical Society for purchase and/or preservation of historical sites. Some suggested sites could include Rev. Wright's home, the Hazeltine/Gordon home, the French/Farr home, the Currier Orchard property, the Old King's Highway, the old Fish Hatchery and other historical sites as may become available.

Chip will research the deed to the Wright property, now owned by the Manchester, YMCA.

Contact list: Anita to develop a contact list for Commission Members.

Symond's Rock Preservation: Documents seen at meeting for plans to subdivide lots 2D-4 between Manchester Street and Al Paul Lane. Anita has left note for staff to consider the status of Symond's Rock, which is listed on the NH List of Historical Places. Does not appear found on the maps or documents.

OPEN COMMENT: Chip presented some ideas for future projects:

Class 6 roads: Merrimack has three: Grater Road, Old King's Highway and Old Blood Road. Clearing, maintaining and proper signage for original locations. Will require coordination with Conservation Commission, since much of this is in their domain. Try to locate plans made in past for OKH signs and create some for other two roads.

Village Signs: Now that we have North and South town welcome signs, look toward four Village signs to coordinate with brochures. Chip will research similar signs in other towns.

Schoolhouse Site Signs: Create signs for original schoolhouse locations.

Communications: Consider Facebook page, contributing to active blogs, monthly publication of articles online and/or in local news on historical subjects.

NEXT MEETING : May 14 . May consider returning to monthly meetings if we can assure attendance.