The Heritage Commission's mission is to identify, preserve and protect the town's architectural and historical features in their settings, as well as its cultural and social heritage, for the benefit of future generations. This includes the view sheds, the natural resources and the ecological diversity formed by the Contoocook and Nubanusit rivers, their valleys and the upland slopes and mountains that sustain the spirit of this distinct community. The town's economic vitality cannot be separated from its historic and natural features.

To achieve these goals, the HC educates the public, works with private citizens, local boards, committees and state agencies to inform and protect Peterborough's special historical and cultural features.

HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR APRIL. 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm
In Attendance: Sheila Kirkpatrick (chair), Debby Kaiser, David Simpson, Duffy Monahon, Dick Estes and Rodney Bartlett and David Drasha as guests

1. **Wilder thermometer site, proposals, ideas, etc.** Rodney and David Drasha gave a slide presentation of plans for the site developed with the Rotary Club. Rodney reported that they now have the EPA/DES go-ahead, have met with the Con Comm and will present the plan to the Select Board on Tuesday 4/19. The design creates a number of parking spaces parallel to Hunt Rd. and closes off all other vehicle traffic. Access to the factory site will be via pathways (partially gravel, mostly grass) branching out to create a "portage path" around the falls for kayakers and canoeists and access for fishermen and general recreation along the river bank. We will be working with an Eagle Scout candidate who will research and help create the project. David described his vision for the factory site, digging out the existing foundations and stone arches, a possible (two dimensional) timber frame to suggest the proportion of the old building, creating railings where safety requires and asked the committee for input. The Commission asked that the gravel paths be kept at a minimum, leaving the portage page as grass initially. We suggested that the signs not block the view of the foundations and be placed in a central location. We will help with content for the educational display and suggested a plumbing pipe railing (like that now on site) with fields of black chain link fencing around the foundation. Since the committee had visited the site some time ago and determined that it was an important site, we were most pleased that the Rotary has taken the initiative to preserve it and were impressed by the design. We, of course, defer to the Con Com on issues involving water flow, possible rain garden solution, etc.

2. The **Minutes of March 11th meeting** were accepted.

3. **Elections of H.C. Chair, etc.** Debby nominated Duffy as our new chair, David seconded, and she was elected by unanimous vote.
Dick moved that Debby continue as Secretary and she was elected by acclamation

4. **Town Report.** The committee thanked Sheila for last minute corrections to our annual report.

5. **Planting Elms**. Duffy added that she has already supervised the pruning of the Elms the HC planted along Elm St. several years ago and will submit a modest bill for the work to be paid out of the Trowbridge Fund (at present $300).

6. **Expending Funds** David S. inquired about the deadline for spending the remaining $3900. We have actually already transferred the money to Liz Hengen (see top 9)

7.**Mission Statement.** Sheila suggested that we revisit the formulation of our mission statement at our next meeting.

8. **Demolition update.** No new applications have been submitted. Apparently the roof of the front house on Laura Norton's Concord St. property has fallen in. The committee will revisit possibilities for a condominium division. Duffy is aware of contractors who would be interested. We will consult with Carol Ogilvie and speak to Laura.

9. **Mariposa update and other inventories and surveys in the works**. Duffy reported that Liz Hengen has made progress on preparing the Mariposa Museum's application for the state historic register. It is a rare example of churches built in combination with commercial establishment downstairs. The Baptists originally purchased the land from the Phoenix Mill. Since Liz will have some time/funding left, we agreed that we should approach the Historical Society about joining the application. Duffy will speak with Greg Connelly (President of HS) first and then we will discuss with Michelle Stahl.

7. **Other business** Sheila will talk with Jim Grant about possible book donations from the HC to the public schools in honor of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.
The next meeting will be on May 12 at 5:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01.

/dsk