

The Heritage Commission's mission is to identify, preserve and protect the architectural, historical, cultural, and social heritage of the town *and preserve the historical landscapes, view sheds, and buildings in their landscapes. These historic and natural resources, the ecological diversity formed by the rivers, valley, and mountains sustain the spirit of the community and its economic vitality and must be preserved for the benefit of future generations. The commission proposes to do this by educating the public, working with private citizens, other local boards and committees, and state agencies. The H.C. is assembling an inventory of those resources, for the proper recognition, use and protection of these special historical features to achieve our goals.*

Meeting was held May 12, 2012

Present were: Duffy Monahan, chairman, Shiela Kirkpatrick, Bob Duhaime, Dick Estes, Debby Kaiser

Duffy reported that Rodney Bartlet had related not to do more work on the draft easement until the Hackler proposal to purchase the GAR Hall was more definite.

The Historical Society Inventory which Liz Hengen is to do has been stalled due to Liz's husband's health. David asked if we should have a new contract.

Duffy reported on the Preservation Alliance Awards program in Concord. The Wakefield HC won a prize for the purchase and restoration of an important building in Wakefield. This is a good model for all HC Commissions. For example the Langden HC has spearheaded the fundraising and phase 1 renovation of the Langden Meetinghouse.

Preservation Alliance also announced their barn initiation to create a million dollar endowment in order to offer grants for the repair of barns.

Following the state and town's Barn Abatement program, Dick and Runi Estes, Granite St. made an application. Presently there are 12 Barns with abatements.

The HC approved the demolition permit for Ben Taylor's house on Old Town Farm Road.

The HC elected Debby Kaiser as the new Chairman, Shiela Kirkpatrick as secretary. As Debby is away for 6 weeks, Duffy will be the acting chairman.

Everyone on the HC voiced concern that the horse fountain was plunked down in front of the Town House. Although, according to the Master Plan, the HC is meant to be consulted about changes to town owned buildings, the HC was not consulted. The preponderance of placques and markers about town has diminished the importance and meaning of events that truly deserve mentioning and their prevalence is creating a cemetery appearance.