

Candia Heritage Commission
Approved Minutes of March 13, 2008

Attendance:

Present: Members: Jim Brennan, Jon Godfrey, Ron Thomas, Jim Lindsey, Diane Philbrick, Ken Madden, Sarah Giles. Also present were visitors: Ray Creswell, Christine Dupere and Betty Sabeau.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Diane Philbrick at 7:32 PM. who then introduced and welcomed the above visitors.

Minutes:

The minutes of February 14, 2008 were approved as distributed.

Correspondence:

- Diane received correspondence from the National Alliance Preservation Commission. Ron made a motion which was seconded and passed to join this organization which has an annual membership fee of \$35.00.
- The NH Preservation Alliance is sponsoring a conference to be held at Plymouth State University April 11 & 12 on *Preserving Community Character*. To register, call 224-2281 or check their website www.nhpreservation.org and click on "events". The NH Preservation Alliance also sponsors the Barn Preservation Program, one of the Heritage Commission's ongoing projects, which offers tax incentives to barn owners who preserve and maintain their old barns. Ken Madden reminded the committee that applications are due April 15th of each year. It was noted that a change has been made to this program which eliminates any penalty at the end of 10 years. Information about the Barn Preservation Program, including the application form, will be posted on Candia's web site. Approximately 1/3 of NH's towns are participating in this program. Ken will send committee members this year's assignments regarding the annual review of barns which are currently in the program.

Town-Wide Cleanup

Jon Godfrey generously agreed to organize the Town-Wide Cleanup again this year. The goal will be to complete the cleanup by Earth Day, April 22. Jon will send committee members instructions and assignments modeled after last year's cleanup. Calls to volunteers should be completed by April 1st. NH the Beautiful

("Litter-Free NH") offers participants in this program a choice of daffodils or a Liberty Elm tree.

Town Archives

Diane asked Christine Dupere to describe the town archives, the records of the town from its incorporation in 1763 to the present, including vital records. Christine has been working on the preservation of these records for over twenty years and almost all the records have been restored. The originals are located in Chris' office and are available to the public in the form of microfilm. Her next goal is to preserve tax records. Ron suggested that it would be appropriate for the Heritage Commission to support Christine in preserving these records. A discussion followed regarding transferring microfilm records to PDF electronic records. Chris explained that when she receives current records, they are printed on acid-free paper and when enough accumulate they are bound.

2008 Project List

The committee reviewed the list of Potential Projects that Ken had written in a new order based on input at the March meeting. Section (A) will remain the same except #6 will be moved to Section B, which will focus on developing an overall town preservation strategy with an education and outreach plan being the top priority in that strategy. The revised list is as follows:

- A. Recurring Projects and Ongoing Efforts
 - 1. Complete Mill Site Documentation Project
 - 2. Burial Ground Maintenance Review
 - 3. Barn Preservation Easement Program
 - 4. Stone Wall Preservation and Enhancement
 - 5. Annual Town Wide Clean-up

- B. New potential projects
 - 1. Develop an Overall Town Preservation Strategy including;
 - a. Education and Outreach Plan (top priority)
 - b. Documentation Plan (town inventory)
 - c. Cooperative Strategy (w/other Boards & groups)
 - d. Protection Strategy

 - 2. Place the Hill School and Schoolhouse #1 on State Register

3. Signs for Smyth Building and High Street Intersection
4. Organize skating event
5. Create note cards or Christmas cards of historic landmarks.
6. Investigate Demolition Review process
7. Veterans Memorial (add names)

Miscellaneous

- Diane showed committee members the large book entitled **Preserving Rural Character through Agriculture** and encouraged all committee members review this by going to [nh.gov/nhdhr>Programs>Tools for Preserving Barns & Farms](http://nh.gov/nhdhr/Programs/Tools%20for%20Preserving%20Barns%20&%20Farms). Scroll down to *Preserving Rural Character: the Agricultural Connection; Preserving Rural Character through Agriculture*. See what ideas might be relevant to Candia for future discussion purposes.
- Diane and Jim L. have almost completed their work on the Mill Site Document Plan. Ron, noting the importance of this major effort, stressed that it should be properly preserved and distributed to the appropriate locations within the town.
- Ron suggested that Heritage Commission information be posted on Candia's web site as a link. Committee members were supportive of this idea.

Next meeting – April 10, 2007, 7:30 PM at the town office meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah H. Giles
Secretary pro tem