

Candia Heritage Commission
Approved Minutes of July 10, 2008

Attendance:

Present: Diane Philbrick, Carlton Robie, Ken Madden, Betty Sabean and Ron Thomas.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Diane Philbrick at 7:35 PM.

Alternate Betty Sabean was seated as a voting member.

Location:

By special arrangement this months meeting was held at the farm of Diane and Jim Philbrick. Diane gave a tour at the beginning of the meeting and all marveled at the ability of the Philbricks to weave a busy modern life schedule with the chores of a truly heritage farm. The tour and discussion were a treat.

Minutes:

The minutes of June 19, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.

Correspondence:

Diane Philbrick read a letter from Jon Godfrey. His term having expired Jon has made a decision not to seek reappointment to the heritage commission.

Election of Officers:

It was moved by Ken Madden to postpone consideration of officers to the next meeting as more members would be present. The motion was seconded by Ron Thomas adopted by unanimous vote.

Stone Wall Ordinance:

Ron Thomas requested that the discussion of the "Stone Wall Ordinance" be advanced as Road Agent Dennis Lewis was in attendance to address the issue with the Commission. The reconstruction of the stone wall at the new courthouse property had been raised as an issue, via correspondence, by one of the Commission members. The ordinance was reviewed and it was noted that it specifies "No person shall deface, alter the location, of, or remove any stone wall.....". Dennis suggested that people should not be discouraged from repairing "however" their stone wall. Criticism of the appearance of a stone wall may act to prevent people from attempting to repair or replace their walls.

In the specific instance of the “courthouse” wall, over the years, ditching by the State DOT along 101 had damaged the original wall and moved many of the stones out of their original location. The courthouse property owner chose to survey the boundary and replace the stone wall with a two faced stone wall.

The consensus of the Commission was that “the beauty of a stone wall is in the eye of the beholder” and perhaps the specific enforcement of the ordinance should be left to the Road Agent. Dennis Lewis as “Road Agent” will modify the town driveway permit to include wording from the stone wall ordinance.

Robie Homestead Tour;

Diane Philbrick thanked Carlton Robie for taking the time to provide a tour of the Robie home and for the discussion of the history of the property.

Selectmen’s Roundtable:

Diane Philbrick reported on the roundtable meeting. There were fewer people in attendance than the prior year. Both the Heritage commission and the Conservation Commission submitted statements that were strikingly similar in that they:

- Suggested that Town committees and boards should focus on the Master Plan when addressing issues.
- Asked for Town committees and boards to work together.
- Highlighted the importance of education of the public regarding Town committee functions.

There was a request by Joe Silveira on behalf of the American Legion for permission to use the Old Smyth Library building as a home for the local Legion Post.

Web Site:

There was a discussion regarding the Town web site:

It was noted that the entire mill site document has been added to the site.

The current site was reviewed and suggestions were made regarding changes in links and documentation.

Betty Sabeau offered to take Pond Park pictures for inclusion in the website.

Miscellaneous:

There has been a question from the Town Office requesting that the Heritage Commission participate in a discussion of creating a “map repository”. After a brief discussion Ken Madden volunteered to contact Andrea at the Town Office regarding the map question.

All barn inspection have been completed and reported to the town office.

Next meeting – September 11, 2008, 7:30 PM at the town office meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Thomas
Secretary pro tem