

CANDIA HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES
TUESDAY MARCH 11, 2014 – 7 PM
SMYTH MEMORIAL BUILDING

Present:

Diane Philbrick, Carol Howe, Betty Sabeau, Sandra Whitcomb , Carmelle Druchniak, Carleton Robie (selectmen's representative), Ray Cresswell, Lorraine Briand, Dave Desolets

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes approved

Minutes from the commission's February meeting were approved.

History Project

The Commission agenda included a photocopy of the Union Leader story about the town history and efforts to encourage residents to share their memories for inclusion in an updated town history. Diane also briefly recounted her experience talking about the project on the radio program "Girard at Large."

Other commission members reported on their outreach to residents with memories to share for the updating of the history.

There was also discussion of related questions. For example, would we have enough information by June to start writing entries? Would the format be one long story or a series of snapshots? Would the new material be an addendum to the 1963 history?

The group agreed there would need to be further discussion on printing costs and whether the new history would be completed by the November elections.

Barn Preservation Easements

There was lengthy discussion about RSA 79-D, which provides property tax relief to encourage the preservation of old barns.

Each year, commission members volunteer to evaluate barns currently in the program and provide the information to the town.

However, it was noted that the barns in the program since 2004 must renew their participation by April 15 or the easement will cease and a new application will be

required. Would owners be notified by the town or the state (the NH Preservation Alliance)?

There also was some confusion on the discount provided – 25% or 50%? The NH Preservation guide provided commission members by the chair notes a range of 25-75%.

Diane suggested the FAQs included on the NH Preservation Alliance website be reviewed by commission members, then she and Ray will evaluate the current process and see if it can be simplified.

Other

The commission applauded the passage of the town meeting warrant creating a Smyth Memorial Building Board of Trustees.

Selectmen will solicit applications for the five positions and then appoint members of the inaugural board. When and if a trustee resigns, locating his/her replacement will be the duty of the trustee board.

Carleton also noted there will be \$10,000 in the budget to be expended by the trustees (with oversight by the selectmen).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next meeting of the Heritage Commission will be held Tuesday, April 8