

Royalston Historic District Commission
October 18, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairman John Divoll.

Members in attendance were John, Bob Casinghino, Jodie Brighenti, Patience Bundschuh, Peter Kraniak, Andy West, and Brenda Putney.

The minutes of the 9/20/01 meeting were read. One change was made. Andy made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Patience seconded, and the motion carried.

Old Business: The application received from the Stowells. Andy made a motion to approve the application "after the fact". Peter seconded the motion. John, Peter, Brenda, Jodie, and Andy voted in favor. Bob and Patience abstained from voting. Application #10-1-01 was approved and will be put on file.

Andy reported that John, Patience, and himself attended the last Selectmen's meeting. He also handed out a copy of the response received that night from the Selectmen.

Patience passed around a copy ^{photo} of a 19th century Federal style house, with a fence similar to the one which surrounds the Bastille. She felt that this shows that although this particular fence was not there in the 19th century, it is however appropriate to the period in question. She also pointed out that the responsibility of determining what is historically significant lies with the Commission, and not with the Selectmen.

Andy showed copies of a letter given to the Selectmen from himself not as a commission member. This letter presents a proposal to the Selectmen to put the issue of the fence on the Town meeting warrant. He requested that the article asks the Town to accept ownership of the fence, and to turn it over to the Historical Society for rebuilding, and maintenance.

Bob asked if we have heard back from the Selectmen. Patience stated that the Selectmen couldn't act on the night of the meeting, due to the absence of Bill Reopell. John feels that this is the reason we haven't heard back from the Selectmen yet.

Jodie stated that the proposal presented by Andy doesn't sound like a bad thing, and that in it's glory, the fence would enhance the Common. Andy stated that he is patiently awaiting the Selectmen's response to the proposal, and that he is willing to circulate a petition to get it put on the Town meeting warrant, if he needs to.

Patience feels that this seems to be a good solution that won't cost the Town or the people involved.

The memorandum received from the Selectmen will be filed as correspondence.

Patience asked what was the Status of Todd Neale. Brenda will make contact with Todd to find out.

John cannot find anything regarding Mark and Gia Smith changing the color of their roof. Brenda will look through what she has. Andy said he would ask them about it when he talks to Mark regarding the back side of the house. He stated that Mark has approached him for an opinion as to whether or not he needs applications to change things on the back side of his house. Bob

feels that yes, it is necessary, since it is visible from certain spots. Everyone agreed with this, and Andy will let him know of the Commission's opinion.

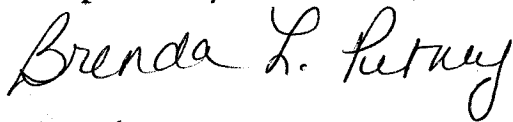
Andy stated that he has talked to Chris Skelley, and the Commission does have the right to issue clarifications, and to predetermine acceptable colors, materials, etc.

Peter said that Dick Lawrence asked why they don't take street lights from South Royalston to use in the district. Andy feels that some historical things need to be protected in South Royalston. John feels that when it comes to the Street lights, we need to contact the Supervisor in charge directly, and see if that gives any better results.

Brenda feels that there are buildings throughout the town that should be added to the data sheets. Peter stated that this could be done through the National Register, and that there are a lot of factory houses etc., in the South Village that could be added.

Bob made a motion to adjourn. Peter seconded, and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda L. Putney".

Brenda L. Putney,
Secretary