Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Note: The regular December meeting was cancelled by Peter due to lack of significant business.

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 20, 2011

Attendees: Peter (chair), Celt, Andy, Bob, Ken, Pierre, Rick (late). All were active voters.

Peter opened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Minutes

The members read the minutes of the November meeting. A motion was made by Celt and seconded to approve them as written. All voted in favor.

Pierre reported that he had sent the thank-you letter to the Village School, as requested.

Internal matters

All the Town departments received a letter from the Town Counsel about the new Open Meeting Law. The HDC is already aware of and complying with it. Related to that, Andy reiterated that email could only be used to present facts, never to express opinions or to start a discussion.

Old business

Parsonage dish antenna:

Bob and Celt stressed that the matter of the dish antenna at the Parsonage has to be resolved. While all agreed, opinions were expressed that this matter should not be brought to Court, at this time. As an alternative it was proposed to organize a hearing with the Selectboard, in late Spring at the latest. This may attract the attention of the local press. As the Church board has been unresponsive, direct contact with the pastor or his wife will be attempted to point out that we trusted his word and to tell them about our next step. Pierre will also work with Chris to resolve the matter of the dish antenna at 2 on the Common.

Town clock

Andy reported that he had obtained the key to the church tower and examined the situation of the Town clock and the bell. After getting some expert advice, it appears that he will be able to take care of it and that he is a willing to act as the clock caretaker.

Historic District boundary signs

Rick reported that he has been in touch with a fabricator for the Historic District signs. The members settled on a design (like Acton: white paint, black vinyl letters, simple Town seal with incorporation date) and on dimensions, as well as on the use of cedar posts. Rick will get back to the fabricator and obtain a firm estimate for 5 signs. Celt volunteered to buy the posts if he could find them at a good price.

Other business

Peter reported that Arlene Vining's daughter Ann had contacted him. She would like to erect a stone bench in memory of her mother in front of the Post Office. Peter will help her with the paperwork (SelectBoard and HDC).

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Meeting adjourned. A motion to close the meeting was made by Bob and seconded by Celt. Peter adjourned the meeting around 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Pierre A. Humblet,

Secretary



PANEL SIZE 16" WIDE X 24" TALL

MATERIAL: 3/4" MDO PLYWOOD (EXTERIOR SIGN GRADE)

COLORS: WHITE BACKGROUND AND BLACK LETTERS AND TOWN SEAL

POST: 4" X 4" X IO' CEDAR POST WITH CHAMFERED EDGES, 2 COATS OF

RED STAIN. QUANTITY I7 (WHITE STAIN WILL SHOW CEDAR "BLEEDING" THROUGH)

INSTALLATION: SIGN LOCATION SPECIFIED BY TOWN WITH STAKE, 7'2" FROM GRADE TO

TOP OF SIGN

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