

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Working Together to Preserve Yesterday for Tomorrow.

MINUTES

Date: August 21, 1997

Attendees: John Poor, Mark Smith, Andy West, Rick Carrier, Ken Lively (alt.), and Karen Pickford (alt.)

Meeting called to order at 7:40pm

Minutes for July meeting were not available. Will be read at next meeting.

Old Business

Andy West announced that **Karen Pickford has been appointed to the Commission as an alternate.**

Andy West suggested that we send a thank you letter to Lorraine Casinghino for her years of service on the commission. Mark Smith made a motion to draft such letter, approved unanimously 6-0. Andy will draft letter.

Andy West has sent a **Historic District Pak** to the new DPW superintendent.

Andy West asked if the **covers on the columns of the Raymond School** should have been removed this past summer. Mark Smith confirmed per the application that the columns were to be removed every summer. John Poor reviewed what was going on with the use of the school and stated it's continued use depends upon approval of a building being erected in Athol.

Andy West spoke with the Mass Historic ~~District~~ Commission regarding the removal of **Antique Light Standards on the Common**. The MHDC stated they have had other situations where these lights have been removed. They stated they can write a letter to Mass Electric letting them know removal of such lighting requires approval. Andy West ^{advised} ~~went to~~ the Selectmen to ^{that he, West} ~~request~~ a letter of violation ~~be sent~~ ^{from} to Mass Electric. Their has been no response from Mass Electric as of yet.

Mark Smith stated he will call Mass Electric and report missing street light in front of his house. (Did 8/25) . Andy West stated that since the Selectmen's meeting, the Gardner News has called regarding the lights.

Andy West looked into any **new construction and/or real estate transactions** for the property on Frye Hill Road. He has found no record of any activity.

Mark Smith made a motion to document current status of trailer on Frye Hill Road. It was agreed that since there is no previous **photographic record of the original condition of the trailer**, that the new photos we take will be the guideline for maintaining the appearance of the trailer for the Historic District. Approved 5-0 with one abstention. Rick Carrier will take photos.

John Poor reported **Lillis Bowers house is being prepared for painting.**

New Business

new Army Corps of Engineers
Selectman Kate Collins brought forth a proposal for a sign to be placed on the triangle on the common. After a brief discussion and reviewing the dimensions, the commission recommended that a sign of approx. half the size be presented for approval. The proposed sign dimension was approximately 6 feet wide. *The consensus of the members present was that the existing signs were just fine.*
Mark Smith brought up the issue of **Primestar** and stated concern over the commission's not be able to approve the position of these dishes. Andy West stated he would check with the MHHC and Mark Smith will check with the Petersham HDC on their policies.

Karen Pickford presented an after the fact application for her south side porch. The application was put on hold till the commission can meet at her house to view the porch in person. It was agreed we would all meet at her house at 7pm before the September 18th meeting.

Continue
~~Patience Bundschuh was not present to confirm her seat as Vice Chair. John Poor agreed to accept the nomination for Vice Chair.~~

Mark Smith stated he would like to step down from **Secretarial duties**. He has been the Secretary for three years. However, since there were no volunteers or nominations for the position, he agreed to continue if he could periodically have a backup. John Poor agreed to assist in this area.

It was moved that the following slate be ~~presented~~ considered
Officers are as follows: *for the coming year:*

Andy West - Chairman,

John Poor - Vice Chairman/Vice Secretary,

Mark Smith - Secretary. ~~The slate was approved unanimously~~ *as presented.*

Karen Pickford made a motion to approve the slate of officers. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Respectfully submitted


Mark D. Smith
Secretary