

ROYALSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2000 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Patience Bundschuh at 7:14 PM directly following the Public Hearing on the Favreau breezeway/garage new construction.

Members present were: Clarence Rabideau, Patience Bundschuh, Rick Carrier, Andy West, Peter Kraniak. Alternates present were: Bob Casinghino.

Karen Pickford, secretary was not present. Bob Casinghino acted as recording secretary for the meeting. The back minutes for the January 5th special meeting were not available to read & approve. The minutes of the January 13 the meeting were read and approved. The motion to approve was made by Rick Carrier and seconded by Andy West. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Patience asked about the status of the application for a cap to the garage chimney at Maxine Wilcox's property which was brought in by Andy West. Andy West will report back on this.

2. Patience reported that Karen Pickford has asked that someone else be asked to take over the secretary's responsibilities as she is unable to continue in this job and would prefer to continue as a regular member. Patience stated that John Poor has expressed interest in being secretary. A discussion ensued and a motion was made by Andy West and seconded by Bob Casinghino to ask John if he would be willing to take over as secretary. The motion was approved unanimously. Patience discussed the fact that John would take the minutes in longhand and wondered if it would be useful to have the minutes done on a computer. All agreed either would be acceptable.

4. Patience brought up the question of the RHDC annual budget and how much of an increase should we ask for. The current budget is \$50. per year. A discussion ensued. Andy West felt it might be useful

to investigate the cost for the budget of hiring a historic architectural consultant. Andy agreed to call Chris Skelly at MHC to see if they have any resources we could tap into.

(Angel Favreau arrives at 7:30)

A discussion takes place on whether Royalston is on both the Federal and State Register of Historic Places. It was agreed that the designation is both state and federal.

5. A discussion ensued on whether we need a clerk to help us with letters, postings etc. These duties are now being performed by the chairman. Patience noted that the selectmen now have a clerk. Discussion went back to the budget and how to determine how much is needed. It was pointed out that when the new design guideline book is ready the RHDC will need more money in the budget. The cost would be dependent on how we will distribute these books. Three distribution options were discussed. 1. Give everybody in the historic district a copy. 2. Have some books available in public places like the library & posted on bulletin boards. 3. Posted on Royalston website (still under construction).

Peter Kraniak pointed out that we should be sure to ask for enough money for the budget to cover all our needs. Patience will pull together actual data to justify any budget request.

6. A discussion was held on how to cover the selectmen's meetings which occur on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. John Divoll and Peter Kraniak can not be available for Tuesday meetings. Many members felt it is too difficult to cover all the selectmen's meetings. It was recommended that Patience talk to Linda Alger, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to ask the Selectmen to notify the commission if any RHDC topics are on their agenda. Rick, Andy, Patience, Clarence and Bob agreed to go to a selectmen's meeting if necessary.

7. Andy brought up the fact that we are still missing a street light. He suggested that we should attend the next meeting between Mass. Electric and the Board of Selectmen on new poles to raise the issue of the missing light. The missing light is across the street from Mark Smith's house. Patience will talk to Linda Alger and ask her to notify the HDC when the next pole meeting occurs.

8. Peter Kraniak asked about the status of the Historic District signs. Andy West stated that letters went out last spring to Massachusetts Vocational & Technical School and to Harry Smith asking for a bid to make the signs but never heard back. Andy West will follow up on this.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Angel Favreau submitted the requested manufacturers brochures for the garage door, the north side garage door and the breezeway door for her application for a new breezeway and garage at her property on Frye Hill Road. This application was ready to be reviewed for a vote following the abutters notification and the public hearing posted for 7 PM this evening prior to this meeting. There was no response from abutters and there was no attendance at the public hearing other than the HDC members present at this meeting. Andy West suggested that the application be amended to say glass panes rather than glass inserts on the garage door. After discussion, it was agreed that this is covered in the brochure. As there was no further discussion, Andy West made a motion to accept the application. The motion was seconded by Clarence Rabideau. In favor of the motion were: Clarence Rabideau, John Divoll, Rick Carrier, Bob Casinghino, Patience Bundschuh, Andy West. Peter Kraniak was opposed. The motion carried. The application received a Certificate of Appropriateness # February 2000 -1.

2. The new numbering system for approved applications was suggested by Peter Kraniak. Peter made a motion that each approved application be given a format of: Month/Year/ number (the number to be sequential starting with 1 for the first application approved in a given year.) Andy West seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. The status of The Landmark Trust grant was raised. Patience stated that as far as she knew the grant had been rescinded as stated in the copy of the MHC letter to Landmark Trust.

4. Andy West stated that he received an application from David Tanzey to remove the balustrade from the Bastille property. Andy

gave David Tanzey some advice on options for preparation of the application. Andy stated that David Tanzey plans to submit the application for consideration at the next regularly scheduled HDC meeting. Peter Kraniak brought up the question of whether or not we should identify a date for restoration the Bastille. A discussion ensued and it was determined that the common has changed over time and that the HDC has never tried to set a date for restoration but has looked at each application in its own context. Extensive discussion ensued about how a commission decides what is historically significant.

A motion was made by Rick Carrier and seconded by Peter Kraniak to adjourn the meeting at 9:35PM. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted,
Bob Casinghino, Acting Secretary