

Present: Alan Bowers, Dr. Royal Frye, Waino Kirkman, Tom Musco,  
John Poor, Guyola Shackelford, Estelle, (Steffie) Siegmund

Royalston Historic District Commission  
Oct. 22, 1981 Meeting

John Poor presided over the meeting in the absence of Bob Gravely.

The district meeting at Fitchburg was attended by John Poor and Alan Bowers with the following report given:

1. How do you train historic commission members for the "knocks" of the job? Presented by Thoreson Group of Portsmouth, N. Hamp.
2. Energy conservation by an architect from Mass. Design.  
(a) What to do first with energy conservation in old houses; heating system, overhead insulation cap, storm windows, zone heating. Side walls should not be insulated on old houses as it traps moisture. Aluminum siding, being ventlated is therefore better than vinyl, if either must be used.
3. How to nominate a structure to the National Registry.
4. Lawyer presentd discussion on historic commission laws. Chapter 40C considered the best to use to establish historic commission rights.

Old Business:

Letter to Hugh Bullock regarding painting his house was not needed as work has now begun on it.

Vinyl siding still shelved for future discussion.

Historic survey: Alan Bowers has done extensive work regarding planning districts and taking pictures. There are approximately 350 structures in the area and 10% of existing structures is needed, to include private residence, and public buildings, burial grounds etc.

44 buildings and 5 structures have been done.

Waino Kirkman has done South Royalston and Dr. Frye has done his area on Prospect Hill.

Historic area has been divided into 6 locations with zone 3 by Dr. Frye and zone 1 by Waino Kirkman completed and zone 5 to be done by Estelle Siegmund and Guyola Shackelford. The remaining zones have not be assigned. Only structures built before 1870 will be used.

Exterior lighting of private property:

The Commission recognizes todays exterior lighting requirments for houses, drives, etc and that fixtures appropriate to an earlier era of a particular house or its environs may be ineffective, too expensive, subject to theft etc. Accordingly the Commission encourages the use of lighting to do the job intended with not being so modern and/ or obviously visable as to detract for the overall appearnace of any building, driveway, walk, gateway etc. The Commission will assist in lighting fixtures/devices selection when requested, including appropriate period items. Motion was made and unanimously approved to accept this as written.

Addition to color selection. Ir is desirable to maintain predominately white but other colors may be appropriate, with the Salem handbook used as color guide.

Any color change must be presented to the Commission for approval.  
Motion was made and unanimously approved to accept this as written.

New Business:

Larry Simington from the Board of Health approached the Commission regarding the town dump gate replacement. He wants the gate to be father down the dump road, near the school; to go from stone wall to stone wall. Which would be painted any color the Commission approved. He was given approval to locate the gate in the area he designated. Motion made and unamously approved to accept this as written.

John Poor brought up the number of traffice signs on many different types of posts. And the fact that some signs were redundant and could the highway dept. be contacted regarding removing some of them and standarizing all the support. John agreed to talk to highway dept.

At next meeting each member is to bring a written statement of why they think Royalston in unique, to be used in future studies.

Meeting adjounred at 9 P.M. Next meeting Nov. 19, 1981

Respectfully submitted *gd approved*  
*Guyola Shackelford*  
Guyola Shackelford, Secretary