

Royalston Historic District Commission

July 17, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by chairman Patience Bundschuh.

Members in attendance were John Divoll, Brenda Putney, Jodi Brighenti, Rick Carrier, Peter Kraniak, Andy West, and Richard Corser.

The minutes of the May 17, 2001 meeting were read by Andy. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. The vote was unanimous.

Discussion was held on the moving up of alternates to member status. Traditionally, the longest standing alternate is moved up to become a member, and a new alternate is appointed by the Selectmen. The other issue that was discussed is the filling of vacant positions for the remainder of terms as people leave. There appears to be no good record to verify when these appointments have been made, and when peoples terms are up.

As requested by the Selectmen, Brenda and Patience will try to supply the Selectmen's office with as much of this information as possible before their July 24, 2001 meeting.

The minutes of the June 21, 2001 meeting were read and accepted.

An application was received from Andy and Kristen West. The application is for a wider gate on the fence they installed on their property, along with a new gate latch, and to bring the stone wall to the fence, rather than the fence to the stone wall.

Andy explained that the changes are due to the fact that the fence is actually 95' long rather than the 98' applied for, because of the angle of the fence along the ground.

John made a motion to accept the application as an amended application to be attached to the original. Peter seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Andy abstained from voting on this application.

The application received 7/19/01 has been designated "accepted as an amended application" and will be attached to the original, as stated above. Copies of the application were signed, dated, and distributed to the Chairman, Secretary, Applicant, and one will be filed with the Town Clerk.

Old Business:

Missing Street lights: Brenda reported that she spoke with Bill Reopell regarding the lights. Bill stated that Mass Electric has said that they will not replace the older fixtures. John stated that he has an old streetlight fixture that he would be willing to donate if it is accepted as appropriate, and Mass. Electric will put it up.

Andy stated that the streetlight by Barclay's house had been taken down and replaced with another style lamp. However, it was put back when the town requested that they do so.

Patience reported that Helen Divoll told her today that Mass. Electric will replace the skirt on the pole by Casinghino's if Bob will leave it by the pole where they can find it.

If this is taken care of the only light that is an issue at this time would be the one by the Smith's house. The commission feels that it is in the Town's interest to see that this is replaced, as we pay for streetlights by how many we're supposed to have, and if this one is not there, then we are paying for services not received.

Patience suggested that if the fixture that John has is approved by the Commission then we should approach the Selectmen to pursue having Mass. Electric put it up.

John made a motion to show the light to the Selectmen at their July 24th meeting. Andy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Design guidelines: Patience reported that the design guidelines committee did not meet, due to the confusion on membership status. She also stated that the letter from the Kelley's was not forwarded for the same reason.

Discussion was held concerning the confusion over membership status.

Patience asked John, Dick, and whoever else could to attend the Selectmen's meeting on the 24th, and request that the commission be reinstated to how it was before the Selectmen's vote, meaning we would also be requesting that they not accept Clarence's resignation from the commission. John will also bring the light with him on that night.

Patience requested phone calls from whoever cannot make any of the meetings, so she has some idea as to whether we will be able to get a quorum. She also requested that 3 copies be made of all minutes of meetings. One for the Chairperson, one for the Secretary, and one for the Selectmen.

Andy will try to get the minutes from Karen Pickford. It was decided that if we do not have them by the August meeting, then further action will need to be taken to try to get them.

Copies of all processed applications will be kept with the Secretary, Town Clerk, Chairperson, and the applicant.

Patience also noted that a copy of our report had not been included in the Town Report.

New Business:

Jason Fortunato is building a patio of stone on the back side of his house. He has not filed an application at this point. Patience clarified the situation, by explaining that he had asked her about it at the Post Office, and that he had stated that the patio would be 3 field stones high but did not tell her it would have mortar in it. She felt at the time that an application was not necessary, but admitted to the mistake in her advice. Rick said he saw it from the Post Office, and that is how he became aware of it. Members of the commission were asked to look at it and see if at the next meeting, we feel that an application is necessary.

Rick asked that no-one make field decisions without coming before the board, to avoid these situations in the future.

It was also noted that the Stowells have been replacing windows in the Lillis Bowers house without applications. The board feels that although this is a positive change, an application is in order. Patience stated she will ask them for the appropriate applications.

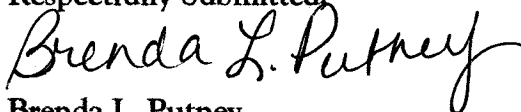
Peter asked about the sign showing the boundaries of the Historic District. Patience stated that because of budgets, it was postponed, but the money is still there, and should be used soon. Dick feels that signs such as this set the district too much apart from the rest of the town. He said he realizes it is a done deal, but he did want to state his opinion.

Andy said that at this time the only thing holding up getting the signs is getting someone to make them. Rick said he will approach Monty Tech again to see if they are interested in making them up. Andy will get the specs. to Rick.

It was noted that the Carbone house has been dismantled.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. All were in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brenda L. Putney
Secretary