

Royalston Historic District Commission
Minutes from August 16, 2001 Meeting

Attendees: Rick Carrier, John Divoll, Peter Kraniak, Patience Bundschuh, and Andy West, acting Secretary. All were active voters.

Meeting Called to order at 7:40 pm.

July Minutes read and approved.

No new applications were submitted.

Old Business

Street lights - Andy stated that Mass Electric communicated through the DPW Supervisor, Keith Newton, that Mass Electric is not willing to replace the antique style lights that now exist in the historic district. But, they do offer replicas for lease. It is not known what the lights look like. A catalog is supposed to be coming from DPW.

The skirt that fell off the light near Casinghino's house is still wrapped and tied to the pole. The electric company is supposed to come and fix it.

Patience has not contacted the Stowells to inform them that they are in violation of the bylaw by installing different windows in the former Lillis Bowers house. Andy suggested writing a letter. Patience wished to contact them verbally.

Jason Fortunato appeared to discuss the patio he is constructing behind his house. He stated that he asked if an application **was needed** for it and was told no by Patience. Members agreed that Patience was in error by giving such information. Jason stated that he has no intention of filling out an application. He thinks that the bylaw is written too vaguely. He suggested that the bylaw be refined to clarify it. He believes that the Commission enforces the bylaw unfairly. He placed a call to the Mass Historical Commission and told Chris Skelly that. John Divoll stated that people with money, like the Stowells, get longer grace periods than other people. During the discussion Jason admitted that he had replaced windows, had not filed an application, and the HDC had not caught the change. Discussion followed. The members of the Commission sympathized with Jason. But reassured him that the Commission tries to be fair.

Rick had not contacted Monty Tech about the HDC signs. Andy stated that he didn't give Rick the specifications for the signs either. Rick will wait until school is underway to contact. ~~him~~.

New Business

Select board reappointed the current members of the HDC under a new rotating schedule.

The Worcester Historical Commission sent a letter asking if the RHDC would like to participate in a web site run by the Telegram and Gazette newspaper. Andy will follow up.

Patience read a letter from the Mass Highway Dept. to the Mass Historical Commission, cc'd to the RHDC, detailing the reconstruction of the Rt.68 bridge in South Royalston. It stated that no historically significant items were near the site.

Patience requested that some members volunteer to go to an historical preservation seminar. Brenda will try to go.

Elections: Peter made a motion to table elections until the next meeting. Rick seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Andy West
Acting secretary