

HISTORIC DISTRICT/HERITAGE COMMISSION
JANUARY 8, 2003

Present: T. Furlong, C. Pynn, and P. Schena

1. Review and approval December minutes

C. Pynn made a motion to accept the December minutes. T. Furlong seconded the motion. The December minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

2. Report on Planning Board Workshop: Historic District Commission Ordinance Amendment and Windham Depot Historic District

P. Schena reported on his attendance at a Planning Board public hearing regarding the proposed amendment to the HDC ordinance and the proposed Windham Depot Historic District. Concerning the former, P. Schena discussed comments by members of the Planning Board related to the structure of the ordinance, the nature of the proposed amendment to Section 5, and procedural matters as to whether the content of the amendment was better positioned in the Commission's Rules of Procedure. Commission members again reviewed the subject matter of the amendment in detail. After considerable discussion on the matter, T. Furlong made a motion 1) to recommend that the Planning Board remove the proposed amendment from further consideration, 2) for the Commission to incorporate the content of the amendment into its Rules of Procedure, and 3) for the Commission to work with the Planning Board to remove the existing Section 5 from the Ordinance to prevent conflicts from arising between the Ordinance and the Commission Rules of Procedure. C. Pynn seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote.

Concerning the Windham Depot Historic District, P. Schena reported that the Planning Board voted to forward the matter to Town Meeting.

3. Report on Castle Hill Bridge Engineering Meeting

P. Schena reported on a meeting he attended with town officials and representatives of the engineering firm contracted to provide construction alternatives to replace the Castle Hill Bridge. C. Pynn advised that she had received e-mails on this matter and distributed them to the Commission.

In his comments, P. Schena noted specifically his suggestion to the engineering firm that, if practical, at least one design option include reuse of existing stone abutments. Furthermore, he noted that the use of wood rails for the bridge was discussed, but not recommended due to design and cost constraints. Lastly, he reported that he expressed his preference for metal 2'3" rails. Commission members agreed with these suggestions and voiced no objections.

4. Report on historic markers program

P. Schena reported that he had discussed the proposed historic marker program with A. Turner who generally expressed approval, agreeing that the Heritage Commission should administer the program. P. Schena agreed to complete the market program guidelines and forward them to Mr. Turner for review and comment.

5. Presentation and discussion of correspondences and/or other new issues

There were no new issues presented at the meeting.

6. Review of plan/project submissions

The Commission reviewed the Anderson Subdivision (3-A-512) project and prepared remarks for submission to the Planning and Zoning Board.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick J. Schena
Chairman, Historic District/Heritage Commission

