

**Draft - 350th Anniversary Steering Committee Meeting
On January 1, 2024**

Remote Meeting Connection:

Meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access and, where required, public participation provided, in accordance with Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022 which extended the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until March 31, 2023. Meetings are typically broadcast on Frontier Community Access Television (FCAT).

Roll Call: Quorum present

Peter Thomas, chair, present
Carolyn Ness, voting member, present
Jay Stryker, voting member, absent
Holly Lankowski, voting member,
Kelly Charest, voting member, present
Diane Martin, voting member, present
Telecommunications coordinator: Pat Kroll
Friends of Deerfield: Stan Adams, Alex Herchenreder
Others: Jeane Sojka

Meeting called to order: 6:35 pm

Note: This meeting was held jointly with officers of the Friends of Deerfield

Minutes for this meeting: The Steering Committee is currently without a recording secretary. Peter T. will create draft minutes and submit for posting.

Call for motion to adopt/modify agenda: None

AGENDA

Old Business

- **Approval of minutes from last meeting.** It was voted to approve the draft minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held on November 27, 2023.

❖ **Time Capsule:**

- **Marker:** Stan Adams had prepared a detailed proposal for a commemorative stone to be placed to mark the location of the time capsule. The proposal also suggested that an appropriate place for installing the time capsule would be beneath the lawn just east of the town hall. These proposals were distributed to the Steering Committee beforehand.

- Given the estimated cost of slightly over \$4,000 and the current financial situation of the town, members of the Steering Committee had explored alternative approaches to marking the time capsule.
- Holly L. had made inquiries about using a granite bench as a marker. She presented photos and a price list to members of the committee.
- Various permutations of the alternative proposals were discussed.
- There appeared to be general consensus about selecting a site near the town hall.
- It was felt that further exploration about the granite bench – cost, style, inscription, etc.— were needed before a final decision could be reached. Further discussion was tabled. Holly L. indicated that she would gather further data about the stone bench.
- **Contents:** Stan Adams indicated that FoD had collected a number of items which they intended to include in the large case that will hold the metal time capsule. He asked if the Steering Committee had collected a similar assemblage of materials.
- Peter T. indicated that this process would take considerable time given the wide variety of material related to the numerous events that had occurred. He indicated that he would work with Pat Kroll to prepare the 350th celebration summary for the town report and asked various members of the Steering Committee to prepare sections of events for which they had primary responsibility – Holly L. for the parade, Kelly C. for the postal competition, Diane M. for Founders Day events. After compiling the summary for the town report, it would be easier to identify and collect various objects for the time capsule.
- Holly L. indicated that Rocky Foley had begun to collect items for the time capsule and that she would contact Rocky to determine its status.
- Members of the Steering Committee were also asked to prepare their own short list of possible inclusions.
- FoD will be preparing their own summary of contributions for inclusion in the town report.

❖ **Historic Churches Open House**

- A video of the event, produced by Jonathan Boschen, is available on FCAT's You Tube site,
- All committee members and FoD attendees agreed that this was a very successful event.
- The catering and preparations at the open house prepared by FoD was complimented.

❖ **Mural Unveiling Debrief**

- Judith Inglese, the artists, delivered an excellent presentation about her goals related to public art and her conceptualization of the scenes depicted in her mural. All expressed thanks for her efforts.
- An excellent video of the mural unveiling ceremony and mounting of the mural of the exterior of the town hall was produced by Jonathan Bouchen and is available on FCAT's you tube site.
- All agreed that the installation of this exquisite mural (by her husband and other family members) is a very fitting, final event for Deerfield's 350th anniversary year and a fabulous legacy to the town.

❖ **Working History Group Update**

- Peter T. reported that the 350th Oral History Project had acquired oral interviews from 25 Deerfield residents with some 40 hours of recorded memories. Excerpts from several of these interviews are being used to prepare a podcast focusing on Deerfield's agricultural past, present and future.
- Peter T. indicated that he had written approximately 10 articles about various aspects of Deerfield history. Digital versions of this research, as well as video recordings of talks given during the 350th Speaker Series are in the process of being edited and will be posted on the Deerfield350.org web site when completed.
- Booklet on Deerfield Churches – Peter T. told the committee that he had received a number of compliments about the report. Thanks to FoD for distributing hard copies to residents who requested them at the reception. Digital versions have been placed on the Deerfield350. Org web site. Hard copies were also given to the Tilton, Memorial, and Historic Deerfield Libraries.

New Business

❖ **Update from Friends of Deerfield (FoD) Representative** – nothing further to report at this meeting.

❖ **Schedule for the next meeting :** *Monday, January 29, 2024 at 6:30 pm*, to be held remotely.

❖ **Meeting adjournment:** Motion to adjourn approved at 8:21 pm.