

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **Meeting of the Deerfield Historical Commission March 14, 2022 in the Town Hall**

Present: John Nove (Chair); Bonita Conlon, Ben Bensen (Clerk), Henrietta Kocot  
Missing: Jennifer Remillard

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:52

**Clerk's Report :** Minutes from the February 14 were accepted without amendment..

**Budget Report :** \$17.00 was spent on a pack of USB thumb drives. leaving a balance of \$1158.

**Form B Workgroup :** No progress on the new batch of North Main St. properties. Those we thought to be complete from the Inventory Project, in the eyes of the MHC, are not, and the Form B included on the MACRIS site for the Old Grammar School now needs to include Town Hall, Police Station, Congregational Church (and possibly the Tilton Library) to be considered complete. We agreed that we need to find a professional - and funding - to do this work. Idea of getting classes or groups involved with collecting and/or improving of the inventory of Old Deerfield was discussed with possible 'spillover' to the North Main St. inventory. At present NO building in downtown S. Deerfield is considered by the Commonwealth to be 'historic'.

**CPC Update :** Ben gave a brief description of the various applications under consideration by the CPC. There was some discussion about PVMA's multi-stage project to refurbish the Indian House. No application had been received this cycle because of legal issues associated with the property and the previously funded CPA grant. Agreement that in general, a brief final report for all projects funded by the CPA would be a good practice.

**The Dead of 1704 Project:** Francis Miller was to finish this work (which has funding through this fiscal year), but hasn't returned recent emails. John will be looking into alternatives including Negus & Taylor.

**"The Original Pine Nook Cemetery" :** There was discussion about the Town getting a right of way to access the cemetery from River Road. Ben will do more research starting in the Assessor's Office as to ownership of adjacent properties.

**National Park Service Battlefield Protection Grant for the Great Falls/Peskeompskut.** The project, now in its 9th year project, is about to submit its 4th grant renewal. John gave a brief report concentrating on the use of metal detection by the archaeologists who have been contracted to do the work. Final grant reports are available on the Montague Town website and three times a DRAFT year there are public presentations. In addition to heads of historical commissions of Deerfield, Montague, Gill, Greenfield and Northfield, representatives of five tribes present at the massacre take part in monthly meetings (first Wednesdays, Montague Town Hall at 11).

**Women's Club 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary:** Bonita is looking for information on the club and its founders. Suggestions /contacts /resources welcome!

Next meeting date to be determined. Clerk Bensen is away on the second Monday of April and the third Monday is Patriots' Day.

Henrietta moved, Bonita seconded, all approved adjourning at 6:52pm