

**Bedford Historic Preservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes of April 3, 2012**

**Present:** Donald Corey, Lorrie Dunham, Robert Slechta, Clerk, Alethea Yates, Chair (two vacancies).

**Absent:** Gaye Carpenter

**Visitor:** Eugene Clerkin

**1. Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2012 approved 4 – 0.

**2. Financial report:** No financial activity reported for past month, thus \$161.50 remains in annual budget.

**3. Demolition Delay applications:** None.

**4. Old Burying Ground:** RS reported that OBG neighbor, Carl Hanson, reported a broken stone which was identified as that of Solomon Stearns of the Bedford Militia who fought at the battle of Concord on April 19, 1775 with his father, Edward and, afterward, marched to Cambridge to join Washington's troops encamped there. He contracted "camp fever" and died on the following March 18 at the age of 19.

Kevin Duffy was asked to estimate the cost of repair (\$175) and to prepare a list with estimates of other stones needing resetting, including some designated by RS and DC. R. Warrington was contacted and agreed to provide funding. Total estimate was \$1775. DC proposed that HPC be billed \$160 for the broken stone and DPW for the rest.

**5. Plaque Program:** Gene Clerkin has volunteered to take over the program and has contacted Bob Leonard of Ould Colony Artisans about revision of the application forms to include small changes in wording and sign prices.

**6. Old Bedford Reservoir:** Gene Clerkin, as a member of the CPC, is involved in the restoration of the old reservoir dam and, in particular, the associated ring well. He made a short Powerpoint presentation showing the present conditions and explained plans for reconstruction. The pump house on Shawsheen Rd. will also be restored and CPC funds of \$5,000 were approved at TM for interpretive signage for the area.

**7. Old Bedford Center National Register nomination.** DC reported that CPC funding of \$5,000 for Kathleen Broomer to prepare the nomination of the proposed expanded N.R. district was approved at TM.

**8. Bedford Depot Park:** DC reported that the Friends are ready to go ahead with operation of the freight House museum and store for the coming season.

**9. Job Lane House:** AY reported that the raspberry patch has been completely eliminated during the restoration of the south part of the meadow and has asked for a meeting of

representatives of HPC and the Friends with Richard Warrington to discuss planning for grounds work in the future.

The blueberries are still alive, but not thriving. DC has added special fertilizer.

The area behind the barn needs more clearing and mowing and he proposes the same for the area east of the house beyond the edges of the lawn.

The Rotary Club is providing funding for upgrading the electrical service in the barn and prefers to do all the work, including trench digging, according to its own plans with permission of Facilities.

The Friends has asked about the capacity of the barn for functions and has been informed by the Town and the Building Inspector that a Certificate of Occupancy costing \$500 is needed which may require some additional alterations. DC made a motion that the Town be asked to pay for this and the motion was passed 4 – 0.

DC reported that the wood board ceiling in the kitchen shed needs replacing and that it should be done as a restoration with old wood and vintage construction procedures. Jeannette Pothier is contacting Tom Musco who was a principal in constructing the barn. RS suggested that the Town should pay for this since it involves basic maintenance of the building.

**10. Wilson Mill Park:** Work on the restoration project should begin soon. Necessary additional contingency funds were approved at TM.

**11. Potential new members for the Commission.** Angelo Colao was mentioned.

**12. Jenks Nature Trail:** A rededication ceremony will be held after the Pole Capping on April 7. Member of BARC will officiate. A sign for the area has been set in place. There will be a tree planting on Arbor Day, April 27, and DC will give an address at the celebration.

**13. Comprehensive Plan revisions:** Not completed as yet.

**14. Preservation Restriction Agreement for the Kimball property:** The MHC has asked for changes which have been completed by Frank Gicca, Board Chair of BHS.

A new plot plan of the property has been produced newly delineating the property lines of the barn, the house and the remaining property. It must be approved by the Zoning Board.

**15. Old Business:** None.

**16. New Business:** AY cannot attend Pole Capping and LD volunteered to represent the HPC at the ceremony. AY announced that “Bedford Unplugged” will be held on Nov. 7 and no town meetings should be planned for that day.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Slechta  
Clerk