

Minutes of the Heritage Committee Meeting  
Dec. 18, 2008 - Town Hall - 7 p.m.

Members present: Ray Wilcox, Janet Banks, William Moncrief, Arnie Magid, Chet Kuras  
Also present: Town Planner Bill Hawkins Absent: W. Hansen, M. Winnie, J. Quinn

Acting Chairman Ray Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Citizen Comment: None

Minutes - Mr. Moncrief moved to approve the minutes of the Nov. 20 meeting; Mr. Magid seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

- Open Space Subcommittee – Mr. Wilcox reported that subcommittee is recommending the DEP Conservation Easement, for the Olson property, a 39 acre parcel. This would be funded by the DEP and the Town of Suffield, each paying approximately half. This parcel would have public access. Mr. Moncrief moved that the Heritage Committee go before the Board of Selectmen, to support the acquisition of the Olson property Conservation Easement. Mr. Magid seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. This will go before the Board of Selectmen, Jan. 6 and before the Board of Finance, Jan. 12. It is anticipated that the Board of Selectmen will set a Town Meeting date in February. The Town's share would be approximately \$250,000.
- Commercial Subcommittee – Janet Banks reported that the Town could package data regarding the unfunded aspects of the Town Center project, for the State and get in line for any possible federal/state economic stimulus funding. Mr. Hawkins will contact Mr. McMahon about this and the Town will take the appropriate action.

The Committee discussed the possible design and marketing for Ffyer Place, and stated that the HC would be happy to provide input regarding the background i.e. the proposed Town Center project.

Mr. Moncrief left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

- Bridge Street School Study – Janet Banks reported that the Board of Selectmen agreed to maintain the Bridge Street School and to renovate the building for town use. The final report will be made to the Board of Selectmen in early January.
- Calvary Church – The purchase of the property will close Dec. 29. All grant documentation has been filed. The Permanent Building Commission will direct and oversee the project. The Town has filed an application for \$200,000 to the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The grant awards will be made in February.
- Conservation Commission update – Mr. Wilcox reported very slow activity. There have been few applications. Zoning and Planning Commission – Mr. Kuras reported a 10 home subdivision, Cassota Acres, is before the Commission. The application is being reviewed, and the Public Hearing is continued. He reported that the Town Center Village District expansion was approved.
- Signs – The Farmland Preserved signs are being noted by the citizens. This increases the awareness of the Farmland Preservation program.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary HC.MINUTES.DEC.18.08

