

## **Minutes of The Heritage Committee**

June 19, 2012 – Town Hall – 7 p.m.

Acting Chairman Jack Quinn called the meeting to order 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Jack Quinn, Roger Ives, William Moncrief, Ray Wilcox, Chet Kuras, Arnie Magid

Absent: Hansen, Winne

Citizen Comment: Carol Desobich, 912 Mapleton Avenue, has an old farm house. She has a very old dead maple tree, and she was just wondering if anything was going on in tree removal in that area. She was advised to call Mark Cervione, Highway Department Superintendent. He could direct her to the proper person and department who would take the appropriate action. She believes the tree is on the Town right of way. She thanked the Committee for their advice.

Minutes of the May 15 meeting: Mr. Magid moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Kuras. The May 15 minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Open Space Farm Preservation update: Mr. Wilcox noted that the Town did not fund any money for the Farm Preservation program in the 2012-13 budget. There is a Small Farms (less than 35 acres) grant and there is interest in that. We had enough funding to do one farm in the 11-12 fiscal year.

Town Center Village District update: Mr. Quinn noted that the Suffield Inn is still operating and the schedule is being adjusted. Support is urged for the local restaurants. The Committee discussed the feasibility of Ff Tyler Place redevelopment. The Town Study (part one) report recommends that the Highway Garage be re-located and this was discussed at length. Any development must be a fiscal advantage to the Town.

Mr. Quinn received a notice of the Connecticut Main Street Center meeting; he responded and attended the meeting. Sage Engineering received an award for Adaptive Reuse of the Building – Town Center, the Bissell Inn. The concept was recognized by this organization.

We had a request from the EDC Director Patrick McMahon; the Town is putting in a grant for the Kent Memorial Library ADA project for \$500,000. This would include an elevator and meet other ADA requirements. He was seeking support for the project. Mr. Quinn drafted a letter, sent the draft to other Heritage Committee members for input. He had no negative feedback, the letter of support was sent to the EDC Director and the letter was included in the grant application. Mr. Moncrief moved to endorse the proposed plan for accessibility for the Kent Memorial Library as submitted in a letter by Mr. Quinn to Mr. McMahon. Mr. Magid seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The Committee discussed the possible options for the use of the Bridge Street School property.

Conservation Commission: Mr. Wilcox noted there are few applications.

Zoning and Planning Commission: Mr. Kuras gave a brief informal report and answered questions.

New Business: Mr. Wilcox wants to know how the Town can get the CVS to weed their plantings, etc. Mr. Quinn noted that Mr. Vidal used to take care of the flower beds. Mr. Quinn will inquire.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary HC.Minutes.June.21.2012