

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
DEERFIELD NH HERITAGE COMMISSION**

The members of The Deerfield NH Heritage Commission (**DHC**) met at the George B. White building on February 21, 2023, at 7:00 PM Eastern Time.

There were present:	Debra Murphy Karen Leavitt Andrew Merrill Dana van der Bijl Erroll Rhodes	Chair Member Member Member Member and Secretary
In Attendance	Deborah Boisvert Richard Boisvert Anne Meyers Richard Pelletier	Member and Treasurer (via Zoom) Alternate Member (via Zoom) Director, Philbrick-James Library
Absent:	Carol Levesque Alden Dill	Alternate Member Select Board Representative

Discussions occurred as follows.

1. A majority of the members of the DHC agreed to the holding of this meeting of the DHC, waiving prior notice. Ms. Murphy acted as Chair of the Meeting and Mr. Rhodes acted as Secretary of the meeting. The Chair stated that a quorum was present and that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the agenda items previously circulated and any other business that might duly arise.
2. A motion was made (Mr. Merrill), seconded (Mrs. Leavitt) and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the DHC meeting of January 24, 2022.
3. Mrs. Meyers appeared at the request of the Library Trustees (following an earlier Select Board presentation) to request the advice of the DHC in addressing the recently-raised fire code issues in the Deerfield Room of the historic Soldiers Memorial Building. There was a discussion of the issue to hand, the actions and suggestions to date and the parameters set forth by the Library Trustees. Mr. Pelletier discussed the feasibility and benefits of introducing a code-compliant egress door at the southeast corner of the Deerfield room, exiting to grade. Mr. Boisvert spoke to the historic aspects of that idea, suggesting that the use and safety benefits appeared to well outweigh the minor impact to the building in a low-public-visibility area. Both speakers invited third-party confirmation of the views presented. There was also a discussion of alternative solutions, funding options and the desirability of a site visit. It was noted that as an improvement to a public building, this project would likely qualify for ARPA funding.

4. A motion (to indicate a ‘sense of the meeting’) was made (Mr. Merrill), seconded (Mr. Rhodes) and unanimously approved to endorse the plan outlined by Mr. Pelletier to provide code-compliant egress on the rear of the Library in a manner that does not disturb the historic character of the building, provides ADA-compliant access to the building, and appears to be a low-cost alternative to meeting the Trustee’s goals.
5. There was a discussion of the upcoming June 24, 2023 Barn Tour regarding logistics, sponsorships, NH Preservation Alliance assistance, program details and publicity. Prospective participating barns were discussed, as were publicity, program details, catering, financial logistics and local sponsorships. Mrs. van der Bijl undertook to coordinate the publication aspects of the project.
6. There was a discussion of the upcoming - March 16th - presentation by Paul Wainwright on the Deerfield Town Hall which is being sponsored by the Historical Society.
7. It was noted that the next meeting of the DHC will be held on March 21, 2023.

Following a confirmation of there being no further business to be transacted at this Meeting it was moved (Mr. Rhodes), seconded (Ms. Murphy) and unanimously agreed to adjourn this meeting, and in witness thereof, these Minutes have been issued as of the date hereinabove written.

Debra Murphy
Chairman of the Meeting

Erroll Rhodes
Secretary of the Meeting