

## Town of Sheffield Historical Commission Meeting of October 27, 2015

Present: Dennis Sears, Chair, Patricia Elsbach, Michael King, Gay Tucker, Jeffrey Waingrow, Kathy Orlando, Beth Anstett, Intern, Lynn Wood, guest  
Absent: Catherine Miller

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

Minutes: On motion duly made and seconded (Waingrow, King) it was voted to accept the minutes of September 9, 2015 after correcting the date of the present meeting from October 6 to October 27.

Gay Tucker opened the meeting by introducing Lynn Wood, a Title Abstractor and research expert. Gay explained that the purpose of the presentation, to be given by Ms. Wood, was "to understand what goes into researching a property and help the commission decide if we wish to include a particular structure in Sheffield's Historic inventory". The Comm. members were each given a packet that included the information needed to follow the presentation and additional information of the property chosen by the individual members to study as their own project. Wood/Tucker chose the Sedgewick House for the working example of doing a "Chain of Title".

Jeff discussed the situation of the barn roof owned by Troy Yufus at 97 Berkshire School Road. It is leaking and in bad repair. In order to get insurance for the roof it must be repaired before the winter. Troy would like help in securing funds to meet the costs.

Michael said "In my estimation, the single biggest contribution that the SHC can make to the barn project is to

1. Determine the actual date of construction of the original barn.
2. Determine the date of the fire that destroyed the original barn roof and roof structure and determine the date of roof reconstruction and reconfiguration.

Should, by proper dating, this barn prove to be an example that is important to the farm culture of the period, then that "significance" becomes part of the reasoning for the SHC's additional participation in Fund raising for the current owner's plans."

However, the blacksmith's shop on the property may be a significant structure. Dennis will talk with Salisbury Bank about a loan and Herrington's about a gift of shingles. Jeff will call Curtis Insurance Co. and review the regulations regarding homeowners insurance.

The Town of Sheffield is reviewing an application for a Community Block grant. They have previously received such a grant. They need a letter of recommendation from the Sheffield Historical Commission if they decide in favor of the application. On motion duly made and seconded (Waingrow, King) support for the application was approved.

Next planned meeting will be held December 8, 2015.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

  
Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Elsbach, acting Clerk