TOWN OF SHEFFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION WORKING SESSION
October 6, 2016

Present: Dennis Sears, Chair; Michael King, Catherine Miller, Kathy Orlando, Jeffrey Waingrow
Absent: Gay Tucker
Visitor: James Larkin

The meeting was called to order at 5:05; due to an incorrect date on the posting, it was agreed to hold a working session with no decisions being made.

Route 7 Bridge

James Larkin expressed an interest in knowing the style of the Route 7 Bridge in Town that is to be replaced by the DOT. Given the historic nature of the Town and the fact that the bridge connects a section of Town that is on the National Historic Register with another section of Town that is a local historic district, it seems appropriate that the replacement bridge reflect a style befitting the community.

The Chair has requested feedback from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) as to its knowledge of the project and the role the Sheffield Historical Commission should/might play.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the MHC outlining the position of the Sheffield Historical Commission and copying the DOT, Sheffield Conservation Commission, Sheffield Selectboard as well as state and federal representatives. The Sheffield Building Commissioner will be copied if it is found that a permit is needed from Sheffield.

Nature Conservancy Barn on Route 41

Kathy Orlando updated the Commission on the Nature Conservancy barn. The Conservancy is not able to sell the structure to a private party, but would consider transferring the land and barn to another nonprofit such as the Community Land Trust. That group could sell the barn to a private party and provide a 99 year lease on the 28 acres of land. The Sheffield Land Trust has a conservation restriction on the property already. Kathy will monitor this project and keep the Commission apprised.

New Commission Member Needed

The Chair urged Commission members to identify prospective members to fill the open seat.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 12 at 5:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Catherine B. Miller
Clerk