

*Historic District Commission*  
*Sherman, Connecticut*

October 17, 2011

The **Historic District Commission Meeting** was called to order at 8:04 PM on October 17, 2011.

Present: Janet Hopkins, Chairman, James French, Liz Mard, Robert Boone, Alice Schneckenburger, Betsy Scholze, Robin Szendy, Helen Bray, Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes dated May 9, 2011 seconded by Bob and so moved.  
Betsy made a motion to approve the minutes dated August 8, 2011 seconded by Jim and so moved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Notice of meeting of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. Janet has been to three past meetings and nothing changes. The latest meetings are some distance from Sherman.

**STRUCTURES & MAINTENANCE**

Janet suggested making a list of the structures that were observed, and found to need repair, when the commissioners walked around the Historic District. Janet will then put together a letter and e-mail it and commissioners can add their suggestions and comments. Janet then went over the information that was in the August 8<sup>th</sup> minutes:

**Old Town Hall** - Prairie window needs a protective covering, the same as the playhouse windows.

Railing at entry was done without a Certificate of Appropriateness and Jim is in favor of asking for its removal and starting over again and applying for a C of A.

When Janet and Gloria Thorne were looking around they discovered problems with the veterans' stone wall. Underneath the plaques the stone is crumbling and the moisture is getting in and causing deterioration around the plaques.

Lamp post - Jim thought the locust post should be purchased as soon as possible, since it must be seasoned for one year, and have it on hand ready for installation when the time is right. Bob questioned how the Romex cable will be handled. It was suggested to carve a channel and put a piece of wood over the cable. Also an iron holder in the ground so that the post can be removed if necessary. Robin thought there was nothing in the ground holding the post right now but the surrounding garden has been enlarged over the years. Sign on post has plenty wrong and should be further looked at.

Library - Slate on roof should be replaced and front gutters need work or replaced. Robin thought any work should wait until the construction on the library begins. Janet commented that someone on the library board should be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of this building. Robin said that she has never seen anyone there doing any maintenance. There should be a town building manager to maintain the buildings with the exception of the school since they do maintain the school. Robin pointed out the broken up slate sidewalk in the front of the library which is a liability. The library sign is in deplorable condition.

Janet will get this out for feedback and would like to have this done for budgetary purposes.

#### WORK DONE WITHOUT CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

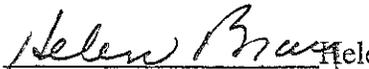
A bench was placed between the firehouse and the scout house to honor the victims of 9/11. Ron Cooper did not know about this, as well as Janet, and it was put there without applying for a C of A. Janet has no objection to the bench being there but does have a problem because of no C of A. Another thing Janet is annoyed with is the single parking space added to the town hall parking area without a C of A. It is a fifteen minute parking space, cut into the lawn. Janet would have suggested a different area if they had come in for a C of A. Again, Ron did not know about it. There are three violations, the railing at the Old Town Hall, the bench and the parking space.

Janet will compose a letter, and the commissioners agreed, and she will e-mail it to the commissioners for comments. Jim commented, and the commissioners agreed, that they will have to come before the HDC and if the commission does not agree with the work that has already been done it will have to be removed.

#### PLAYHOUSE

Painting the interior of the playhouse and cushions for the pews were discussed. Betsy said that John Taylor will inform Lazlo Fohn that his plans have not been accepted by the HDC.

There being no further business Jim made a motion to adjourn seconded by Liz. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM. THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS ON DECEMBER 12, 2011

Respectfully submitted,  Helen Bray, Clerk