

**APPROVED**  
**BOW HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**December 13, 2011 Minutes**

Present: Gary Nylen, Chair; Tom Wilson, Vice-Chair; Faye Johnson,  
Secretary; Sue Wheeler; Nancy Knapp; John  
Meissner; and Eric Anderson, BOS Rep  
Absent: Dennis Ordway (excused)  
Guest: Carol Gouin; Bruce Buttrick, Code Enforcement

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minutes, etc.** The November 8, 2011 minutes were approved with correction of date in the heading. Heritage Fund report reviewed. No expenses; deposit of \$21.00 (1 Images of Bow; 2 note cards). Gary attended the Budget Committee review on Saturday; budget remains as requested. Sale of note cards, posters, and *Images of Bow* will run through Primary Day.

**New Members.** Faye will place a notice for new members in the Concord Monitor; sign-up sheet and town forms will be at our table on Primary Day.

**OLD BUSINESS.**

**Bow Bog Meeting House**

- **Grant Application.** Upon request from Amy Dixon at LCHIP for additional information to support our application, Faye sent an email that reiterated the Town's previous support for this project, reported the temporary measures taken to secure the deteriorating bell tower and forwarded the proposed Warrant Article funding this project.
- **Turnstone - Phase 1.** Turnstone has been paid except for the retainer, which will be released when he receives the photos taken during construction. He will prepare a disc of Turnstone's photos and those taken by the town for BHC to use Primary Day.
- **Bell tower** - Temporary repairs to the bell tower roof and hatch, as well cross brace supports have been completed.
- **Tree Removal.** Discussion held regarding permits for tree removal within the wetland buffer zone. On motion duly made and seconded it was voted to support the removal of trees in the buffer zone that are within striking distance of the building.
- **Basement Exploration.** Further discussion regarding

investigation of a previous building on site.

### **Library**

- **History Room.** Gary reported that meetings continue to be held regarding the plans for the basement of the library, and funding.
- **Lincoln Presentation** will be held May 3, 2012.
- **Microfiche reader.** After discussion, it was voted to accept the microfiche reader as an historic item. Faye will make arrangements.

### **Cemeteries.**

- **Historic Cemetery Report.** Nancy brought in her photos of the private cemeteries, which will be combined with Faye's and used to prepare the final report to Bruce. Faye reported on documents from the 1960s donated by Carol Gouin showing the location of the graves in most of the private cemeteries, as well as stone inscriptions. John Meissner will make inquiries regarding stones rumored to have been removed from the Hopkilkn cemetery 50 years or more ago.
- **Cemetery Stone Cleaning.** Bruce provided BHC with information on how to properly clean cemetery stones without damage. He suggested we check the NH Cemetery Association website for more information. BHC provided him with information on the product that has come to our attention. BHC will continue to pursue results from this product.

**Street Renumbering and Renaming.** Faye has been researching the oldest roads in Bow with regard to selecting new historic names for those proposed to be changed. She reported that there are a number of instances in *100 Acres, More or Less*, where the Branch Londonderry (or Londonderry Branch) Turnpike is referred to as the Branch Turnpike. Also the portion of the Turnpike passing the Town Pound was referred to as "Pound Hill".

**Bow Center** - Eric has completed and placed upstairs in the hall a composite print of the Bow Center sign. It should be used at primary table. Gary and Eric prepared and sent a photo and narrative press release of the sign, but it was not printed.

**1976 Bicentennial Coins** - Selectmen have approved BHC's request for

these coins. They postponed a decision on what to do with remainder until tonight's meeting. Faye has prepared a table of the coins by number, leaving a space for indicating the purchaser if the Selectmen decide to sell them. Karen reported that the previous treasurer told her that money from the sale of these coins was to go into a fund for future town celebrations; the current treasurer is not aware of any such fund.

**BHC Brochure Update** - Brochures have been printed and are in Karen's office. More will be printed for the Primary Day table.

**Londonderry Turnpike Milestones.** Gary has completed and delivered to the Town Manager the application to the State for a state historic sign. The Town Manager has/or will shortly send the application under his cover letter.

**Railroad Cattle Crossing.** Faye reported that she has seen both the cattle and sheep crossings.

#### **Barn Preservation.**

- **Brown/White/Stevens Barn.** Faye reported that she had talked with Don Stevens' daughter recently and discovered that the Brown/White/Stevens barn that was in the location of the Hampton Inn was not destroyed but moved to Canterbury and belongs to Steve Fifield, a noted historic barn expert. Tom and Eric will follow-up on this information and attempt to get photos for the Barns of Bow project.
- **Alexander Barn.** The owners have received a permit for repair of the barn. The rotted side of the roof has been removed, and some interior work done. The equipment operator said that plans are to strengthen the structure, put on a metal roof and exterior and a cement floor. He also said they may destroy the addition on the back. Discussion held on whether the town and/or BHC had any obligation to discuss with the owners ways to preserve the barn or to make future use of discarded historic beams and boards. Gary will write a letter to the owners after the holidays.

#### **Display Cases.**

Faye has prepared a Christmas display. She will attempt a political display if sufficient information and artifacts are available.

**Bow Veteran Information.** Carol submitted information for Alston Couch

and additional information for Robert F. Bowen.

Respectfully submitted,  
Faye Johnson, Secretary