

EAST LYME HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION  
Meeting 6:30 PM July 20, 2015 East Lyme Town Hall  
Meeting Minutes

Members present: L. Lange, S. Hamilton-Marks, B. Murphy, B. Johnson Low, seated R. Waterman Alternate.

Members greeted new member Barbara Johnson Low.

Minutes of June 15, 2015 accepted as read – S. Hamilton Marks, L. Lange Unanimous

L. Lange reported that PAST Archeology Grant at the Samuel Smith House is being completed, report has turned up some historical inconsistencies. There is a possibility for a matching grant for a second phase through the CT Trust for Historic Preservation. L. Lange is pursuing this option.

The Samuel Smith House participated in the Agriculture Day July 19 of the three Farm Tours – SSmith had over one hundred visitors, Melissa Miko had her goats, a turkey, “Butch” Foster and another member of his band played all afternoon, and members of the Smith Committee took visitors on tours of the house.

Niantic River Bridge design work at Cini Park – is reported progressing by Al Sher.

Nothing has been heard of the new CIA Budget, and the Governor’s Budget.

Copies of the Commission Duties and House Inventory are now available in the Clerk's Office.

The CT Trust for Historic Preservation visited the Griswold House on East Society, and has listed it in their Newsletter Property exchange.

The draft of Scenic Roads Publication is completed but awaits how the HP Commission will make it accessible to the public. A similar brochure exists in the Planning Office.

The Commission discussed and rated 70 more houses in the EL House Inventory.

Thomas Lee House update – New windows/screens have been installed in the basement, along with a new bulkhead door – that can be lifted by all docents to allow for more air circulation in the basement. Many trees have been removed and many of the locust trunks went to the S Smith House for use in the Community Garden.

An overview of the CLG 2013-2014 Federal Report was given by Luane (See attached.)

Meeting adjourned – B. Low – L. Lange unanimous  
Respectfully submitted – Elizabeth H. Murphy, Secretary

## Annual Report for CLGs

CLG NAME: East Lyme Historic Properties Commission \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT FOR THIS FORM: Luane Lange TELEPHONE: 860-739-6949 \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: llange@sbcglobal.net

REPORTING PERIOD: Federal Fiscal Year 2014 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014)

The CLG Annual Report is brief (1-2 pages) but should include at least the following documentation and/or information:

(a) A summary listing of and description of activities related to the issuance of Certificates of Appropriateness by the municipality's Local Historic District and/or Property Commission(s). **Please include the total number of applications for Certificate of Appropriateness that the Commission reviewed.** NOTE: Copies of the minutes of each meeting of the municipality's Local Historic District and/of Property Commission(s) held during the reporting period ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED.

(b) A statement indicating the number of vacancies which occurred on the municipality's Local Historic District and/or Property Commission(s) during the reporting period and the duration of the vacancy or vacancies listed; *or* a statement indicating that no such vacancies occurred;

(c) Where applicable, copies of resumes for any new members or alternate members of the municipality's Local Historic District and/or Property Commission(s) during the reporting period and a statement outlining the procedures that were followed in selecting and appointing these new commissioner(s);

✓ (d) Where applicable, a summary listing of any preservation-related municipal ordinances or ordinance amendments enacted or proposed during the reporting period;

(e) Where applicable, a summary listing of any publications, workshops, or other activities which were produced or undertaken by the municipality to promote and/or encourage local historic preservation during the reporting period.

(f) A copy of the municipality's most recently completed municipal audit and

(g) A copy of any changes to your municipality's most recently approved affirmative action plan, if such changes have been adopted within the last 12 months.

Continued on next page--

East Lyme, CT  
P. 2

**For Federal Reporting purposes, please answer the following questions:**

**1. Number of properties designated.**

During the reporting period, how many historic properties in the following categories were newly designated? Please include the number of properties in a district

National Register \_\_\_\_\_

State Register \_\_\_\_\_

Local Historic Districts and Properties \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Inventory (Survey Program) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Local Tax Incentives Program**

a. During the reporting period, did your community have a tax incentives program under local law that could be used to benefit (directly or indirectly) historic properties?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X \_\_\_\_\_

b. If the answer to question 2a is "No," please proceed to question 3a. If the answer is "Yes," during the reporting period, how many historic properties did your local government assist through your local government's tax incentives program? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Local "Bricks and Mortar" Grants/Loans Program**

a. During the reporting period, did your community have a local government-funded grants/loans program that could be used for rehabilitating/restoring historic properties?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X \_\_\_\_\_

b. If the answer to question 3a is "No," please proceed to question 4a. If the answer is "Yes," during the reporting period, how many historic properties did your local government assist through your local government's grants/loans program? \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Local Property Acquisition Program**

a. During the reporting period, aside from eminent domain, did your local government have a program that could be used to acquire (or help to acquire) historic properties in whole or in part through purchase, donation, or other means

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X \_\_\_\_\_

b. If the answer to question 4a is "No," you have finished the Annual Report. If the answer is "Yes," during the reporting period, how many historic properties did your local government acquire (or help to acquire) in whole or in part through purchase, donation, or other means?

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this report!**

ANNUAL REPORT for CLG  
OCTOBER 1, 2013- SEPTEMBER 30, 2014  
FISCAL YEAR 2014

PAGE 2  
EAST LYME CONNECTICUT

**Commission member retirement and new appointment:**

Norman Peck Jr., retired as a member of the commission. He remains available for information as a man in his 80's, with extensive knowledge of town history. He was one of the initiators of the study that resulted in the CLG.

Steve Marks Hamilton was appointed in January, 2014. He is a retired high school Art teacher who has moved to East Lyme. He has a strong interest in the history of this community, traveling the area doing pen and ink drawings of the historical sites and buildings. He is also on the East Lyme Historical Society Board of Directors.

**Certificates of Appropriateness:**

A contained fire at the Thomas Lee House required interior repair and restoration in the kitchen. The restoration plan was approved by the Commission in April, 2014.

The 1660 east chamber girt system of the Thomas Lee House was replaced during the Summer/early Fall of 2014. The replacement beam was lumbered and held for three years prior to its final preparation and installation.

**Samuel Smith House and Property:**

The 1685 Town of East Lyme property was added to the CLG responsibilities by Town Ordinance on February 19, 2014.

Funding for an archaeological survey was granted by the State, through the CLG, on November 6, 2013.

**William Tinker House demolition:**

With no legal recourse, the 1770 William Tinker House was demolished during the Spring of 2014, as approved by the town, prior to the existence of the East Lyme Historic Properties Commission/CLG. With the Commission's intervention, and multiple documentation and legal papers, the developer cooperated to have historical materials carefully removed and provided to the Friends of Samuel Smith House and Property, Inc. for use or resale. A reproduction of the house is being presently built on that site.

**Other:**

The Historic Buildings Inventory, a 2012 funded project through the CLG programs, continues to be a very useful resource.