

**Heritage Farm Commission
Regular Meeting
March 2, 2026 at 7pm
Municipal Building Room A and Via Zoom
MINUTES**

Members Present In-Person: Chairman Arlene Fiano, Rhea Klein, Kevin Drake, Leslie Shea, Bonnie Massey, Ann Maulucci

Members Present Via Zoom: Treasurer Cara Wraight, Paula Lynn (joined via Zoom 7:13pm)

Staff Present Via Zoom: Board Clerk Rebekah Lyon

Others Present in Person: Rudy Guliani, Pam Evans

1. Call To Order: A. Fiano called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

2. Rudy Guliani Introduction and Artifacts display/case discussion:

R. Guliani has a background working in public history and collections management. R. Guliani proposes exploring the following angles for the display case: demographics of a regiment, sleeping/camping difficulties, and changes in public perception of King George. August 3rd is proposed date of full completion. Detailed proposed schedule will be reviewed by town administration.

Review of development requirements: audience will have limited attention span – think a 2-minute hook, display must be mobile per town administration, and the library has requested more than 1 story board for periodic rotation. Commission members discussed an interest in focusing specifically on Bolton history. Potential topics to explore: historic letter, challenges of traveling in Bolton, troop/resident interactions, historic community of Bolton, culture of Bolton vs troop background. Discussion of the need for pictures and models to draw attention. Discussion of potential events and community partnerships that could be explored to bolster community involvement.

The space available for the display case is about 30 inches wide and 20 inches deep, with additional space available for story board displays on either side. There are about 40 artifacts in the collection and the current vision is to display about 12 to 15 items. Artifacts include: coin, buttons from every regiment, wagon pieces, and musket ball. The goal is to include enough detail in the display to draw interest in narrative elements, but avoid text overload. R. Guliani will have recommendations for the display case artifact selections for the April 2nd commission meeting. The majority of the research will be presented at the May meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes: February 2, 2026:

R. Klein MOVED to APPROVE the meeting minutes from February 2, 2026 with the correction of "A. Finao" to "A. Fiano" in section 4a. C. Wraight SECONDED. Motion passed, unanimous.

4. Residents' Forum: No resident comments.

5. Old Business:

a. Farm Maintenance Report: No update provided.

b. BHF Accounts Report: C. Wraight reports that the Rosie Fund has a current balance of \$8,033 and some cents and BHF has a current balance of \$12,508.14.

c. 250 Freedom Event Bourbonnaise:

The living history weekend dates changed to September 18th, 19th, and 20th. Town administration approved the big cooking display. Commission is going to invite suttlers, merchants that would follow the regiment for the trade, to set up. Very open to including local trade people. Vision is for a small farmers market like feel. Discussion of local vendors to reach out to. Next step is to finish developing the budget. Need to consider transportation for the reenactors.

6. Eagle Scout project Cedric G: Cedric G. reach out to the commission seeking potential eagle scout projects on the farm. The commission will seek John's input and put on the agenda for discussion next month.

7. Master Plan Update:

The master plan has been edited to be more concise. K. Drake asked for feedback on the revision. Initial suggestions include: highlighting the current ways town residents use the farm, and the need to reserve the farm for weddings or similar events. K. Drake encouraged commission members to attend BOS meetings to show more consistent presence.

The commission can highlight future opportunities to generate revenue and offset costs. The full pavilion and utility/bathroom proposal is cost prohibitive. Town administration suggested to focus on finding a way to phase work within the barn to get up to health/safety/fire code standards.

8. Correspondence: None received.

9. New Business

- a. **Other:** K. Drake wants to discuss cleanup of the first floor of the farm house with John. Expressed willingness to help. Goal to make the farmhouse more presentable for September event.

10. Adjournment: R. Klein MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:29pm, P. Lynn SECONDED.

Respectfully submitted by Rebekah Lyon

Rebekah Lyon

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.