PRESENT: Donna Dunn, Laraine Allen, Les Hammond, Tiffany Dodd, Bill and Rebecca Rolke. Also present were Dunbarton residents Dan Van Kalken, and Ted and Allison Vallieres.

HISTORIC HOUSE SIGNS: This major project was discussed in depth. It was decided that the criteria for consideration for a new house sign would be that the structure was included in Bud Noyes’ book, Where Settlers’ Feet Have Trod. By concentrating signage on structures lining the John Stark Scenic Byway, Route 13, their visual impact will be maximized. However, all houses town-wide that meet the criteria will have an opportunity to be included. This will constitute Phase I.

As this project evolves, additional phases will be developed, such as signs for houses of historic value, but which are unable to meet the criteria otherwise, or signs designating sites where houses or structures once were, but are no longer there. Individual members volunteered to go door-to-door in the future with information about the signs, which will also be included in a flyer.

The signs, which will emulate Bud’s design of black stencil-font letters and numbers on a white background, are being considered to be made by a friend of Les Hammond’s. Each will be computer-aided in its design; routed, and hand-painted by the sign maker, who will soon create a sign for the cobbler shop. The town’s historic homeowners may get a first-hand look at the sign maker’s art by viewing the one made for the bandstand, on the town common. The price for house signs at this time is not set, but it is believed that the cost will decrease once the sign maker has developed a set form, which could be generally applied to the entire order.

The DHAC is considering conducting a workshop, to help people repair their existing signs, but our recommendation in most cases will be to replace these with the new, weather-resistant material, and to retire the older signs to the indoors.

DUNBARTON EXTRAVAGANZA: April 21, 2012 will be the date for a full day of activities planned by the Dunbarton Town Hall and Theatre Restoration Project, the Dunbarton Historical Society, and the Dunbarton Congregational Church. There will be Live and Silent Auctions and a Gala Dinner at the Dunbarton Community Center, and a Spring Concert at the Congregational Church. The theme is “Community Working Together to Support and Celebrate Dunbarton!” Tiffany and Ted spoke about the planned events, and Allison spoke about the delicious-sounding meal to be prepared.

Dan will be performing at the Congregational Church. Get tickets early; only 200 available for dinner!

The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance has generously offered a $4500. grant, but that needs to be matched in order to receive it. These funds will be used for architectural design services for the historic building; bathrooms, an elevator, and code issues will be addressed. Of note is that the existing footprint of the building will be kept as it is, and will not be expanded upon.

OLD BARN EXPO: At the Center of New Hampshire, at the Radisson in Manchester, on Saturday, March 24th and Sunday, March 25th, 9am-5pm; $10. adults, $7. students, seniors, and children under 12.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 26, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Rolke, Chair and Secretary