

# HistWick Herald

**!! Histwick Annual Meeting, Thursday, March 31st !!**

March 2011

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## *Strategic Planning Meeting A Great Success*

*by Nora Hall*

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, a blessedly un-snowy evening, over fifty residents came to the Wickford Yacht Club for an exciting HistWick meeting. Keith Stokes, Executive Director of the RI Economic Development Corporation, challenged us with a stunning presentation on the economic value of Historic Preservation and HistWick unveiled a new Strategic Plan.

Keith Stokes has a unique combination of experience and success in working with business, community planning, historic preservation, and government. During his 15 years as Executive Director of the Newport Chamber of Commerce, Keith collaborated with the Newport Restoration Foundation and the city of Newport to achieve many successes. His passion for historic preservation was obvious, and his focus on utilizing it to improve tourism and economic development was well received by those in attendance

After Keith's talk HistWick presented, for consideration, a series of strategic initiatives developed by the Board over the past six months:

- Membership Programs
- Protective Guardianship
- Signage

Follow-up discussion on the initiatives revealed energetic support and generated additional insightful ideas for working with the town to make certain that Wickford remains a viable historic community that works for both visitors and residents.

The development of these plans is ongoing and everyone is urged to participate in projects that most interest you. Be sure to watch for future newsletters or talk to one of your Board Members to see how you can get involved.

*Histwick is a not for profit corporation dedicated to historic preservation and community information for those interested in the village of Wickford. All dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Upcoming HistWick Activities

North Kingstown 'Spirit Day' March 19th at North Kingstown High School. Mary Ann Podolak and Mike Dacey will represent HistWick and share our goals and activities.

HistWick Annual Meeting, Thursday, March 31st. Wickford Yacht Club, 6:30 to 8:30

New Slate of Officers, presentation on the Hussey Bridge and discussion of other activities and fundraisers for the coming year.

*Historic Wickford, Inc.*

*P.O.Box 261*

*North Kingstown, RI 02852*

**You are invited to the  
HistWick Annual Meeting  
March 31, 2011 - Wickford Yacht Club  
Beginning at 6:30PM  
Wine, cheese and good company  
Brief Business Meeting to Elect Directors  
Presentation – The Hussey Bridge  
Update - HistWick Strategic Plan**