

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Office in the Town Hall. Attending were: Ron Bullock, Dave FitzGerald, Louise Garwood, Anne-Marie Nolan and Barbara Rossman. Dick Rossman presided.

## OLD BUSINESS

Website- The article , "Religion in Early West Brookfield", written by Dave, has been posted. Ron offered to convert the article written by Jeff Robbins, "A History of Local Capitalism in Warren and West Brookfield, Massachusetts (1870-1900)", into pdf format so that it can be posted also.

Maps- Bill Jenkins came to the office and looked at the maps. He recommended Green Dragon Bindery in Shrewsbury to appraise them, and arrangements will be made to take them there.

Indian Trail/Pynchon Grist Mill Site- The letter was sent to Gerald Martin, but no response has been received. So, unless something changes, we will conclude that Burrington Rd. cannot be used and will use Wickaboag Valley Rd. to Lake St. instead.

Scenic Road Signs- The blue version of the sign has been selected, and the Highway Department plans to install them soon.

Franklin Marker- Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report- Anne-Marie provided a written report.

H.S. Scholarship- We have not yet heard whether there will be an applicant. The deadline is April 15th. Anne-Marie says Patrick Custer may be able to attend our June meeting.

Old Indian Cemetery- Nothing to report.

Lucy Stone Site- Nothing to report.

Methodist Cemetery- Louise has started the write-up of the information required for the application (Form E), and will consult with Amy about further work to be done. There was a discussion about finding additional material on the cemetery, the Cemetery Commission being suggested as a possible source.

Brochures- Louise has most of the brochures ready to go to the printer, just a little more work to be done. Decisions were made about the weight of the paper (light) and color (cream) and quantity (500). The brochures to be done will be: Lucy Stone, Old Indian Cemetery, Historical Commission and Walking Tour, hopefully in time to be available for the Asparagus Festival.

Library Programs- The program, "I Pronounce You Lucy Stone", by Judith Kaloara was held as scheduled on 3/10 and reportedly was excellent. Upcoming programs will be: "Living History-My Side of the Anvil", by Rob Lyon on 4/7, History of National Parks, by Vincent Kordack on 4/19 and "Lucy Stone Stomping Ground", by Joelle Million on 5/26.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Commission will have a table at the Asparagus Festival 5/21.

Dick, Barbara and others attended the recent meeting at the Town Hall regarding the "Blue Trail" (Quaboag River). An excellent guide is available.

There was some discussion about the situation posed by the collapsed barn and uninhabited house at the Foster Hill Rd./E. Main St. intersection. Dick has looked into the situation and approached various of the Town officers who might have responsibility, but thus far to no avail.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:30 P.M. Next meeting May 4, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., Historical Commission Office, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave FitzGerald, Secretary