

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Office in the Town Hall. Attending were: Dave FitzGerald, Louise Garwood, Dan Hamilton, Ed Londergan, Anne-Marie Nolan and Barbara Rossman. Ron Bullock had another commitment and couldn't join us for the meeting, but joined us at the end. Dick Rossman presided.

OLD BUSINESS

Website- The information about the availability of The History of West Brookfield for sale has been posted. Louise hopes to be able to add the photos to the site soon.

Indian Trail- Dick handed out copies of the draft trail guide to all who did not already have them, and asked us to go over it for suggestions, etc. so that hopefully when we re-convene in September it can be finalized.

Franklin Marker- Mary Hafferty of MassDOT visited and indicated granite marker should be installed soon. Dan told us the marker is currently being decorated with flowers by Bonnie Jean Holske.

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

H.S. Scholarship- Question asked how to get information about scholarship to home schooled student. Suggestion to ask guidance counselor.

Lucy Stone Site- Still waiting for MHC, but Betsy Friedberg has indicated review process nearly finished.

Methodist Cemetery- The Fannins will be visiting the site on 6/12.

Asparagus Festival- The Commission table was very busy, with many visitors and many pamphlets distributed, Ron manning it for the whole day and Dave for part of it. There were a few inquiries to which we will do our best to respond.

History Conference at Holy Cross- Ed indicated that he plans to attend the conference on 6/12.

Barbara's retirement- Barbara's retirement from the Commission is now official, after 24 years of service, part of which as chairperson. She received a well deserved thank you from the Town Selectmen, and all the rest of us would like to add our voices to that, and our hopes that she will enjoy her new "free time".

NEW BUSINESS

Dan Hamilton has agreed to take Barbara's place as a member on the Commission. Welcome, Dan. Dick will send a letter to the Selectmen to inform them.

There is another Master Plan meeting, scheduled for 6/22. It will be held at Salem Cross Inn, 3:00-5:00 P.M. and 7:00-9:00 P.M.

Thank you to all who wrote letters in support of demolition of partially collapsed structure at base of Foster Hill.

Town Maintenance Plan- reportedly front door needs replacement. Dick says \$20,000 was appropriated at town meeting for maintenance.

Ed mentioned bus tour scheduled for 6/11 from museum. Others to take place later in the year.

Dan mentioned availability of link to Mass. Colonial Society.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:30 P.M. Next meeting Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017 at 7:00 P.M., Historical Commission Office, Town Hall. Best wishes to all for a good summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Dave FitzGerald, Secretary