

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

OLD BUSINESS

Website- Church history article Dave wrote has not yet been posted, but was converted into pdf format, and perhaps Ed can post it in Ben's absence. In meantime Dave will send out an email copy of it for members to look at. Also, Jeff Robbins' article, "A History of Local Capitalism in Warren and West Brookfield, Massachusetts (1870-1900)", was suggested as something to be added to the website, perhaps under a "local authors" section.

Maps- Anne-Marie purchased the plastic sleeves, and we placed the 2 recently received old maps in them. Ron suggested that the maps could be appraised by some local person (as we still do not know their value).

Indian Trail/Pynchon Grist Mill Site- Considerable time was spent revising Ed's draught letter to Mr. Martin so that it will be applicable to all abutters of the Trail on Burrington Rd. It was suggested we might ask advice of EQLT which has experience in such matters. Also, we have learned that Mr. Benoit on Warfield Rd. has changed his mind and is now against having the Trail go through his property.

Scenic Road Signs- Nothing to report.

Franklin Marker- Nothing to report.

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

H.S. Scholarship- Nothing to report.

Old Indian Cemetery- The Fannins hope to complete phase 2 this year.

Lucy Stone Site- Amy provided us with a copy of the nomination, which she submitted 1/4/16. Invoice received of \$1,137.20 for work done to date.

Town Hall Maintenance Plan- Dick talked with the Selectmen about the Plan, and received a letter from them listing recent work that has been done in the building (but mostly non-plan items).

Methodist Cemetery- We will start on the eligibility work. An email was recently received from Colleen Jenkins, offering to volunteer as an intern, and it was suggested she might be interested in helping with this work.

Commission Annual Report- Will be submitted by due date.

Commission Inventory- Will be submitted by due date.

Brochures- Still to be done.

NEW BUSINESS

The Tree Warden has submitted expenses for tree work, presumably some of which will be for Old Indian Cemetery.

The Commission has been contacted by the Library for possible events we would sponsor in 2016. Among possibilities: Lucy Stone presentation, a speaker on 100th anniversary of National Parks, a speaker on 75th anniversary of OSV (Rob Lyons?).

Meeting adjourned ca. 9:00 P.M. Next meeting February 3, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., Historical Commission Office, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave FitzGerald, Secretary