

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Office in the Town Hall. Attending were: Ron Bullock, Dave FitzGerald, Ed Londergan, Anne-Marie Nolan and Barbara Rossman. Dick Rossman presided.

OLD BUSINESS

Website- A letter dated 10/18/16 was received from Hillcrest, Davidson & Associates on behalf of ANEVRY (Jacob Gorham) demanding payment of \$693.75 for services which he claimed to have performed on the Commission website. Since Mr. Gorham was terminated in 2014 due to unsatisfactory work and all bills through that date have been paid, a letter will be sent denying this claim. A bill for \$150.00 was received from Doug Sumner for web hosting, 6/16-11/16, and it was unanimously approved to be paid from the Town Account. Dave reiterated that he will submit item for "Upcoming Events" on the 300th Anniversary celebration of the first Church in Brookfield. The celebration will take place in 2017, starting in April and ending in October.

Maps- Nothing to report.

Indian Trail/Pynchon Grist Mill Site- Dave submitted an alternative route, which could be added to the early section of the trail guide.

Scenic Road Signs- Dick obtained a list of the addresses of all property owners on the scenic roads in town, and it was decided to divide up the job of addressing the envelopes (289) among us. Dick will write the letter to be included in the envelopes.

Franklin Marker- Nothing to report.

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

H.S. Scholarship- Ed has agreed to write newspaper article to be submitted in January to stimulate interest.

Old Indian Cemetery- The Fannins have indicated they will finish phase 2 by year's end.

Lucy Stone Site- The new sign has been paid for and will be ready to be installed soon. Still waiting for MHC reply to application.

Methodist Cemetery- A letter was sent to MHC (Betsy Friedberg) on 10/23.

Library Programs- We are looking for new programs to be held at Library.

Memorial Concert for Donald Boothman- the concert was held as scheduled on 10/8 and was excellent.

NEW BUSINESS

We were very sorry to hear of Dan Hamilton's recent heart issue and that he will not be able to continue as a member for the foreseeable future. We wish you a speedy and complete recovery, Dan. Ron may be willing to fill the membership vacancy, but is not ready to make a decision.

Debbie Morrison of the New Braintree H.C. is interested in the scenic roads program, and will visit the office on 11/17 at 10:00 A.M. to find out more about it.

Ed mentioned the following upcoming events sponsored by QHS:

Bill Jenkins will give a "Trolley Talk" at Brookfield Congregational Church on 10/29.

Dianne Rapaport will give a genealogy talk in March.

Martha DeWolfe will give a history presentation (revised) on the original settlement.

Meeting adjourned 7:55 P.M. Next meeting Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., Historical Commission Office, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave FitzGerald, Secretary