

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

## OLD BUSINESS

Website- There was discussion about adding an "Upcoming Events" section to the site, and Dave offered to write something about the 300th Anniversary of the Quaboag Plantation Churches (which will take place 10/15/17) to go in it.

Maps- Bill Jenkins and Dick took a trip in to the Green Dragon in Shrewsbury to find out what they would charge for cleaning the maps. The cost would be \$150 for the 1665 map and \$50 for the 1794 map. It was voted unanimously to have the work done, the cost to be paid from the Town Account.

Indian Trail/Pynchon Grist Mill Site- On 6/22 Ron, Dave, Anne-Marie and Dan Hamilton took an automobile tour of the route of the Bay Path Indian Trail from New Braintree to Warren, Dick doing the driving. Dan took notes on the route, and Dick is working on finalizing a trail guide, based on them.

Scenic Road Signs- We think all the signs have now been installed. It was suggested that brochures should be sent to all the property owners, and all present agreed it would be a good idea.

Franklin Marker- According to DOT, a granite marker will be installed next to the original by year's end.

Treasurer's Report- Anne-Marie provided written reports.

H.S. Scholarship- At the June meeting it was decided that the application form needed to be re-written (to be more specific). Anne-Marie has done a revision and will bring it to the October meeting. Also, it was suggested that putting an article in the newspaper might be a good way to stimulate interest in the scholarship.

Old Indian Cemetery- There has not been any contact with the Fannins recently, and Dick will email them for an update.

Lucy Stone Site- MHC has acknowledged receipt of the application Amy sent, and they are reviewing it. Josh Hassenfus of TTOR was contacted about the sign at the Site, and QHS has agreed to pay the cost of a new one.

Methodist Cemetery- Lyons Road, on which the cemetery is located, has now been re-paved. Alex Richard, a student (and son of Bob Richard) has agreed to work on the cemetery as a community service project. He will map the site and record the information from the stones. Also, Dick has emailed Louise about work on the cemetery.

Library Program- Program on 9/8 by Judith Kaloara on Christa McAulliffe.

Collapsed structure at Foster Hill Rd./E. Main St. Intersection- The Town is working on the problem.

## NEW BUSINESS

A number of old photos, mostly of members of the Fales family, was recently received from Mike Cummings.

The Opacum Land Trust will hold a dinner on 9/21 featuring a presentation by Ed Hood on the Hurricane of 1938.

A letter was written by Dick expressing the Commission's support for up-coming Cottage St. reconstruction

On 10/1 there will be a music program at the Rock House.

On 10/8 at 7:00 P.M. there will be a Memorial Concert in honor of Donald Boothman at the Stone Church in Gilbertville, featuring Malcolm Halliday organist, Juliana King violin and Seong-Heui Jeon vioncello.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:15 P.M. Next meeting Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., Historical Commission Office, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave FitzGerald Secretary