

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. via **Zoom**. Attending were Louise Garwood, Jesse Morrison, Heather Walker, and Anne-Marie Nolan, with Dick Rossman presiding.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: Mike Sroka was unable to attend tonight so hopefully Dan will continue to post minutes and oversee website until a replacement can be found.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of March 31, 2021. She received an updated England account balance. A motion was made and approved to reimburse Dick Rossman \$12.87 for the purchase of a picture frame from the town account.

H.S. Scholarship: The submission date for the scholarship application is April 8, 2021. Dan will email any applications from the website to Anne-Marie and the Town Hall mailbox will be checked as well.

Old Indian Cemetery: The Fannins sent an email stating that they are completing Phase 4 (last Phase) this field season.

Methodist Cemetery: In the same email, the Fannins stated that they will get back into the document review as soon as possible.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: Jesse incorporated Dick's suggestions regarding Significant Buildings with a 12-month demolition delay and emailed this version to the members prior to the meeting for review. After making changes at this meeting, it was decided to have Jesse resend this latest version to the members for possible corrections and then send the final document to the BOS executive secretary with a request as to the process involved in getting the proposal voted on.

Master Plan Implementation: No meeting has taken place. Dick expressed that there are fewer members but still would like to see this implemented with all the work that was put into it and all the great things in there that would improve the community. Louise brought up the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) workshops she was involved in. See New Business for details.

Library Programs: On site Programs are still on hold due to the Covid pandemic.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: Members are asked to fill in blanks in the spreadsheet and send back to Louise.

Pynchon Mill Site: The darker, rustic signs Louise designed were approved by the members. Wording changes can be sent to Louise who will then email these to Cynthia Henshaw at EQLT. EQLT will be in charge of making and installing the signs with HC input in their location. It was suggested that the land trust erect a sign at the entrance to the site. Parking at or by the Nadon property was mentioned.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: Louise printed out a copy of the application with photos for the HC files. Louise has not heard from MHC since sending in the eligibility.

Town Hall Maintenance: Nothing new was reported. Dick will check with Becky Acerra that the repurposing of the funds for the Town Meeting article is on the BOS agenda.

Preservation of HC office documents, photos, etc: Heather has found an overhead scanner that would be appropriate for HC purposes. The laptop purchased in 2011 is outdated and would need to be replaced in order to support the scanner. The vendor involved (Amazon) is still under discussion. The scanner, hard drive and safe will be bought through the HC town account. A newer computer will be purchased soon.

Facebook page: There were 28 followers noted in the past month. Heather will look into getting permission to put the HC page on other FB pages.

NEW BUSINESS

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness: Louise participated in 3 workshops with other town department representatives addressing issues similar to those of the Master Plan group, especially maintenance of town buildings. The MVP's focus is on climate change projections, town resiliency in the face of climate hazards, developing an action plan, and hopefully taking action. She is hopeful that the overlapping interests of both groups will be an impetus to move forward with the work.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:00 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary