

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Heather Walker, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Mike Sroka with Dick Rossman presiding.

NEW BUSINESS part 1

Dick started the meeting by thanking Heather and Anne-Marie for reorganizing the office and Mike Sroka for coming to the meeting. He showed the certificate for the Lucy Stone Homesite Historic Register which will go into the Lucy Stone Homesite Historic Register book. He will email Amy asking for a copy of what she sent in.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: Mike Sroka stated his interest in helping out with the website. He was given Dan's copy of the website information as well as Dan's contact information. Mike will get in touch with Dan.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of April 30, 2021. Proposed purchases of a scanner, hard drive, small safe, and office supplies were discussed. A motion was made and approved to purchase a Czur Pro Doc scanner for \$525 this fiscal year 2020-2021 through the Town account. Another motion was made and approved to spend up to \$150 for the office supplies this fiscal year 2020-2021 through the Town account. The purchase of the hard drive and the safe for the hard drive will be up for discussion and vote at the June meeting.

H.S. Scholarship: After some discussion, it was decided that the scholarship would not be awarded this year. Suggestions were made to discuss some revisions to criteria and extending scholarship to graduate students in the future.

Old Indian Cemetery: The Fannins came last week to scope out what was left to do and did not do any field work.

Methodist Cemetery: This continues to be a work in progress.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: The bylaw was finalized and sent to the Selectmen's secretary. It will go before the Planning Board next and from there to a public hearing.

Master Plan Implementation: Rebekah Cornell informed Dick that she was planning on having a MPI meeting.

Library Programs: On site programs are still on hold. Heather suggested having a list of programs for the fall for when the library is allowed to hold gatherings safely.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: Dick went to the Assessor's Office with the list and looked up the map and lot numbers to give to Louise.

Pynchon Mill Site: Dick attended the work day at the mill site last Saturday. Cynthia Henshaw loved the signs and after the terminology is reviewed the EQLT will have them made. A cellar hole belonging to Lemuel Gilbert was discovered and cleared by the workers. Cynthia will send Dick a copy of the updated Pynchon site map.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: Hopefully, there will be some notification from Mass Historic by the next meeting.

Town Hall Maintenance: The Commission sponsored Article #18 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant scheduled on June 1st, 2021 for the reallocation of \$72,000 voted on at the December 15, 2020 Special Town Meeting.

Preservation of HC office documents, photos, etc. Heather will research a new computer (laptop or desktop) to replace the outdated laptop and would like to discuss its security at the next meeting.

Facebook page: Heather will post the news about the Lucy Stone Homesite being added to the Historic Register and information about the Old Indian Cemetery preservation work.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness: We will wait for an update from Louise if any.

NEW BUSINESS

Dick received old photographs of 4 Franklin markers from Bill Jenkins as well as Sanborn maps from 1911 regarding steam facilities in Brookfield, East Brookfield, and West Brookfield which were put in a map box.

Dick asked new resident Mike Sroka if he would be interested in joining the Commission, and he expressed that he would be. Dick will write the BOS a letter recommending that they appoint him to the Commission.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:00 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary