

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Lower Level Meeting Room. Attending were Heather Walker, Louise Garwood, and Jesse Morrison with Dick Rossman presiding.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: Nothing to report. It was not known if Mike Sroka had been sworn in. Minutes would be sent to him. Dick reported that Rebecca from the Selectmen's office asked if the membership years could be staggered so that there would be two members with terms expiring each year. 1-yr expiring 6/30/22: Dick and Anne-Marie; 2-yr expiring 6/30/23: Louise and Jesse; 3-yr expiring 6/30/24: Heather and Mike.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of May 31, 2021. Czur was paid \$525 for the scanner which is now in the Commission office. Office supplies from WB Mason were approved for \$150. The bill was \$151.77. A motion was made and approved to pay WB Mason the balance of \$1.77 from the town account. Another motion was made and approved to pay Anne-Marie Nolan for a Walmart purchase for label maker tape in the amount of \$26.49 from the town account. Heather has asked for a report from the town accountant as there is a discrepancy in the town account balance. The 2022 proposed expenses: 5 terabyte hard drive for \$199 through Amazon, safe for hard drive for \$25.48, computer @ \$550, and monitor, keyboard, and mouse for \$200. These can be discussed and voted on in the future. Heather was given an unexpected bill for \$260 from Muddy Brook Masonry (Randall Noble) for the repair to the hitching post on Pleasant Street. A motion was made and approved to have this paid from the England Fund. Note to have work and payment proposed and approved prior to the work being done.

H.S. Scholarship: Louise suggested doing more outreach next year, i.e., sign, bulletin and Heather would reach out to colleges in Worcester and Springfield which may have graduate/postgraduate students.

Old Indian Cemetery: Fannins to work there this week for 1 or 2 days.

Methodist Cemetery: Dick asked Minxie to contact Betsy Friedberg about cemetery ownership. Jesse indicated that adverse possession is the only process by which the town can get legal ownership.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: Jesse to write letter to go with bylaw to Planning Board.

Master Plan Implementation: No meeting date set.

Library Programs: Holly Takorian is the contact person and Heather will reach out about fall programs.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: Louise brought a hard copy so the blanks could be filled in for various sites. Addresses could be found online.

Pynchon Mill Site: Dick and Barbara Rossman researched Lemuel Gilbert and found no mention of cellar hole. Research will continue.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: Louise will contact Brona Simon and Betsy Friedberg again.

Town Hall Maintenance: Dick will contact Rebecca Acerra to see how the \$72,000 is being spent.

Preservation of HC office documents, photos, etc.: Heather reported that the files have been redone through Churches (C) and inventory has been taken of every page in every folder so that when scanning, she has an idea of what is in those folders. There is an index at the beginning of each letter to make research easier.

Facebook page: Nothing reported.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness: Louise mentioned the article in the paper indicating a meeting on June 9, 2021 at 6:15 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

It was decided to not have the July and August meetings but rather to call if there is a need for a vote.

Louise brought a copy of the laminated map of the Historic District.

Heather will reach out about viewing and acquiring the Becker College Jacob Knight Collection.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:00 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, September 13, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary