

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Jesse Morrison, Heather Walker, Louise Garwood, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Ryan Gough with Dick Rossman presiding.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: Scholarship information is posted on the website. The Asparagus Festival date (May 21) needs to be posted noting the location of the HC table (route 9 side) and the historical items on display. The library program "A Rendezvous with Rachel Revere" (May 5th at 4 pm in Great Hall), the March 2022 meeting minutes, and the "pocket park" at 5 Foster Hill Rd and donation link need to be added. Mike will be sent the appropriate information.

Climate Control Room: Dick, Louise, Heather, and Anne-Marie met there and placed sorted reports/books to be preserved under cover. Anne-Marie typed a list of these items for our records.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of March 31, 2022.

H.S. Scholarship: The scholarship information was put in the local newspapers.

Old Indian Cemetery: Metal Detector sign is still pending installation.

Methodist Cemetery: Nothing to report.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: Jesse contacted Jeff Taylor, Building Inspector, who directed him to look at Town Reports where he found that 1.5/yr demolition delay permits had been granted. No Planning Board meeting is needed for approval. It will be put on a warrant at some point.

Master Plan Implementation: Nothing to report.

Library Programs: The "Rendezvous with Rachel Revere" presentation will be held Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 4 pm in the Great Hall. A suggestion was made to have Mert Kenniston hold a future presentation on coinage and history at the library.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: The Selectmen will be sent a copy of this report.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: Ben Haley responded with guidance in proceeding with the eligibility. Louise will send a reply with attached requested report.

Town Hall Maintenance: Richard Kemp will give an estimate on repairing the front doors. The side door has not been purchased as previously thought.

Preservation of HC office documents, photos, etc: Work is ongoing.

Facebook page: Heather will add the library program and the Asparagus Festival info to the site.

Jacob Knight Collection: There is a year waiting list for artist displays at the Palmer library.

Wickaboag Valley Road: The Scenic Road article will be voted on at the Town Meeting.

Metal Detector Signs: Signs have been brought to the Highway Department and the Common Committee will decide on their placement.

5 Foster Hill Road: Since our last meeting, the East Quabbin Land Trust has signed a Purchase and Sales agreement for this future "Pocket Park". A "Friends" committee headed by Jeff Robbins was formed and letters are being sent out to potential donors. The East Quabbin Land Trust has this project listed on its webpage. Louise will make a poster to display at the Asparagus Festival.

Asparagus Festival: Dick has a list of items to bring. Members will help in transport, setup, and manning the booth.

Print of King Philip's War: Members viewed the colorful print. The plan is to have it framed with the Sacajawea coin.

Photos of Houses: Nothing to report.

Sacajawea coin: Mert Kenniston will attend the next monthly meeting to present the coin and give a brief presentation.

New member: Ryan will check that he received his letter from the Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS

Center Historic District Sign: The sign met its demise when a stolen car crashed into it. Louise will contact Dave Maloney (Industrial Designworks) who had constructed it originally to ask for an estimate. Responsibility for payment is still to be determined; however, the HC will probably have to foot the bill while waiting for restitution, if any.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:15 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, May 2nd, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary