

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, December 5, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Heather Walker, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Jesse Morrison with Dick Rossman presiding.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dick Rossman thanked the Commission for the kind words expressed at the White Christmas Concert on his retirement from the Historical Commission. He reminisced about his tenure in the Commission: the office being in the small room near the stage (now a restroom), the past chairpersons and their contributions, and the England Fund which made projects possible.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: No changes. Mike has been busy and will post minutes, etc. soon.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of November 30, 2022.

H.S. Scholarship: Katelyn Maskell provided the Accountant with a W-9 and a check will be sent out. Anne-Marie will update the award letter for 2023 (adding a deadline for the W-9 submission, and proof of 2nd semester enrollment, with failure to do so incurring revocation of the scholarship.)

Old Indian Cemetery: The Fannins came twice last week. An invoice for Phase 4 will be submitted for the work done.

Methodist Cemetery: Minxie Fannin will work on it over the winter.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: This is on hold until the Town Meeting next year. Jesse will respond to the Selectmen's meeting minutes.

Library Programs: Anne-Marie has not heard from Mert Kenniston.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: No update.

Town Hall Maintenance: Selectmen's minutes were read and it was noted that corrections need to be made, Jesse will respond to this as well. Dick mentioned the name of Tom Pettee who does historic renovation. Jesse will include this in his letter.

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

Facebook page: Little Marshy Meadow information was updated.

Jacob Knight Collection: No update.

Wickaboag Valley Road: Jesse will contact Selectmen about putting this on the warrant.

Metal Detector Signs: A motion was made and approved to reimburse Louise Garwood for the purchase of 2 signs for \$53.00 from the Town Account. Jesse will contact Elise Kowal about the blinking light.

Little Marshy Meadow: The dogwoods and perennials were planted on 11/19/2022.

Elm Tree: Jim Daley was receptive to the Commission purchasing a replacement elm tree.

175th Anniversary of West Brookfield Incorporation (1848-2023): Heather will write a letter to the Selectmen.

Driveway cut bylaw: A suggestion was made to look at the Spencer website.

Grant for Town Hall: Heather will take an introductory grant writing class.

Boston Post Cane: The Town Clerk gave an updated list of the town's oldest residents. Anne-Marie contacted the family of the next potential recipient who asked to wait until the beginning of 2023 to decide if the recipient was willing to receive the cane (pin).

White Christmas Library Raffle: The Frank Bly print will be saved for next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Historical Commission Goals: Dick passed out the 2021 and 2022 goals and their current status. Dick reminded the members to continue working diligently to achieve these goals.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:15 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, January 9, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary