

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Jesse Morrison, Heather Walker, Louise Garwood, Anne-Marie Nolan, and guest Eric Von Bleicken with Dick Rossman presiding.

NEW BUSINESS Part One

The Commission welcomed Selectman candidate Eric Von Bleicken to the meeting as he had expressed interest in learning about the Commission's goals and projects. Dick brought him up to date.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: Dick will send Mike the information about the Asparagus Festival to be added to the website. (added 5/3/22). The Foster Hill Pocket Park will be posted once details are complete.

Climate Control Room: The stored items will be scanned at a future time.

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

H.S. Scholarship: After review and discussion, the applicants were determined to not have met the criteria this year.

Old Indian Cemetery: Metal Detector sign was installed.

Methodist Cemetery: Nothing to report.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: The Board of Selectmen decided not to place this on the Town Meeting warrant.

Master Plan Implementation: Nothing to report.

Library Programs: The "Rendezvous with Rachel Revere" presentation will be held this Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 4 pm in the Great Hall. Holly Takorian suggested another program on Ruth Bader Ginsburg by Sheryl Faye on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 4pm. A motion was made and approved to fund this program for \$187.50 from the town account.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: Final revisions are being made. A copy will be given to the Board of Selectmen. Louise will inspect a stone marker to be cleaned on Foster Hill.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: In process.

Town Hall Maintenance: Nothing to report.

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

Facebook page: Heather will post the Asparagus Festival info on the site.

Jacob Knight Collection: Dick Rossman was given a Jacob Knight signed and framed print of North Brookfield to add to the collection. A thank-you note will be sent to Gene and Joanne Alley for their donation.

Wickaboag Valley Road: The Scenic Road article will not be included for a vote at the June Town Meeting (per Board of Selectmen decision without notice or discussion with the Historical Commission).

Metal Detector Signs: Elise Kowal (Common Committee) left it up to the Historical Commission to decide on placement of the signs. The Highway Department will be contacted for their input and will install them.

5 Foster Hill Road: The Friends Committee met on April 26, 2022. 150 letters were sent to potential donors. Fundraising is moving along well. Louise will make a Foster Hill Pocket Park poster for the Asparagus Festival.

Asparagus Festival: Discussion centered on items (Dick has the list) to be brought to the site. Volunteers will meet at the office on Friday, May 20th at 4:30 p.m. to help with loading table, sign, easels, and packing boxes.

Sacajawea coin: Mert Kenniston will attend the June 6, 2022 meeting to present the coin and give a brief presentation.

Center Historic District Sign: Rebecca Acerra contacted town insurance (damage) about the sign. A motion was made and approved to have Dave Maloney from Industrial Designworks make and install a replacement sign not to exceed \$1300 to be paid from the England Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Historic Buildings Sign: Jesse suggested having a student artist create a sign in the shape of West Brookfield with painted historic buildings labeled. He will bring a photo to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:35 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, June 6th, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary