

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Heather Walker, Louise Garwood, and Anne-Marie Nolan with Dick Rossman presiding.

NEW BUSINESS Part One

Sadly, Dick announced his intent to resign from the Historical Commission in December 2022 after 24 years as Chairman. Dick has been the driving force of the Commission, accomplishing many projects preserving the historic character of West Brookfield.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: We would like Mike to add the Little Marshy Meadow workday to the website: Saturday, September 24, 2022 at 8:30am. May and June minutes are to be posted as well.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of September 1, 2022.

H.S. Scholarship: The accountant is waiting for Katelyn Maskell to submit the W-9 form. A letter will be sent to Ms. Maskell informing her of a deadline for W-9 submission.

Old Indian Cemetery: The Fannins plan to return in October, possibly finishing Phase 4.

Methodist Cemetery: Nothing to report.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: It was suggested to meet again with Selectboard. Jesse will be contacted to set up a convenient meeting date.

Library Programs: Heather will contact Mert Kenniston to arrange a date for his presentation on coinage.

Local Historical Memorials and Sites: Louise will email latest copy to members and will send a note to the Selectmen.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historical Register: Louise will contact a group from UMass. There is a possibility of this group helping doing eligibility. More info by next meeting.

Town Hall Maintenance: Paul Holtz responded that the proposed door is not appropriate. The current estimate was deemed too high by the Selectboard. Suggestions were made to contact other painting contractors from Wilbraham and Brimfield. Dick will make the calls.

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

Facebook page: Louise will post the Pocket Park workday on Saturday, September 24, 2022 at 8:30am.

Jacob Knight Collection: Heather will make another attempt to contact the Palmer library.

Wickaboag Valley Road: Another meeting will be set up to discuss the addition of WVR as a scenic road.

Metal Detector Signs: Signs should be put on existing posts. Dick will ask Jim Daley if the Highway Dept. is allowed to install them.

Little Marshy Meadow: Work is ongoing. For his Eagle Scout project, Caleb Brown will build a kiosk and 5 benches with his Scouts on September 24, 2022. Site work details were discussed.

Center Historic District sign: Dick will email Rebecca as to status of insurance claim.

Elm tree by monuments: The tree was removed.

175th Anniversary of West Brookfield Incorporation (1848-2023): It was suggested that the Asparagus Festival would be an appropriate place for a booth and to contact Amy Dugas for initial discussion.

NEW BUSINESS Part Two

Wigwam Road: Discussion centered on a driveway cut bylaw such as the one in the town of Spencer.

Pynchon Mill: Eagle Scout project is planned to clean out the Lemuel Gilbert cellar hole and put up interpretive signage. Louise will do the research on Lemuel Gilbert.

Thank You: Dick Rossman sent a thank-you to the Commission for its generous contribution to the East Quabbin Land Trust toward the Pocket Park purchase.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:21 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, October 3 , 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary