

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Heather Walker, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Ryan Gough, with Louise Garwood presiding. Louise asked that minutes include members' initials after each item to indicate who is responsible to follow up on its action.

### **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**Website:** Brick Fundraiser and Asparagus Festival were posted. March minutes need to be posted. If Mike has an Ionos bill for 2023, he should bring it to the next meeting to be voted on. **(MS)**

**Treasurer's Report:** Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of March 31, 2023. The library sold 2 History of West Brookfield books. Payment will be submitted to the Treasurer. **(HW)**

**H.S. Scholarship:** The applications are due by the end of this week. **(AN)**

**Old Indian Cemetery:** Louise will follow up with the Fannins to put HC on their schedule this year for the condition assessment of the stones needing repair and for a tutorial on cleaning gravestones. **(LG)**

**Methodist Cemetery:** No update. Louise will contact the Fannins. **(LG)**

**Demolition Delay Bylaw:** Heather will contact Jesse to work on a power point presentation for the Historical Commission. Procedure to change bylaw (filing, public hearing, Town Meeting) needs clarifying. **(HW, JM, LG)**

**Library Programs:** A program, Eleanor Roosevelt, is slated to be presented on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 4 pm. The cost is \$391.70. Louise will contact Amy Dugas from the Quaboag Historical Society to see if she is interested in co-sponsoring the program. **(LG, HW)**

**Rock House Nomination to the National Historic Register:** No update. **(LG)**

**Town Hall Maintenance:** Louise will again follow up with Rebecca Acerra on the RFP in person. **(LG)**

**Preservation of HC office documents, photos, etc.:** Work is ongoing. **(HW, AN)**

**Facebook page:** Heather reported 372 followers. The Asparagus Festival event was posted. Louise plans to post pertinent information as to Historical Commission projects every other Monday. **(LG)**

**Jacob Knight Collection:** Good news! Heather announced that the Jacob Knight Collection will be shown the month of April 2024 at the Ruth Wells Center in Southbridge. She will curate the exhibit and contact newspaper publications in early spring 2024. **(HW)**

**Scenic Roads:** Look to Planning Board for guidance in enforcement procedures.

**Metal Detector Signs:** Two new signs were installed toward the middle of the Common. Louise will ask Jim Daley to turn the sign on Maple Street to face the opposite direction. **(LG)**

**Little Marshy Meadow:** The Historical Commission will purchase an 8" x8" memorial brick. Members are asked for input on a quote for the inscription. **(all members)**

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The magnet design was chosen; a motion was made and approved to purchase 200 magnets from Vista Print not to exceed \$150 from the town account. Louise is designing a poster. A motion was made and approved to have the poster printed not to exceed \$100 from the town account.

**Elm Tree:** Louise will contact Jim Daley regarding a replacement tree. **(LG)**

**Driveway cut bylaw:** Ongoing. Louise will contact Rebekah Cornell. **(LG)**

**Grant for Town Hall:** Heather plans to take a virtual introductory grant writing class in the fall. **(HW)**

**Boston Post Cane:** Anne-Marie will be meeting and interviewing the new recipient Camille Koss on Wednesday, April 12, 2023. Once there is a set date, Ryan will contact the Selectboard, MA House of Representatives, and MA Senate requesting citations to be presented at the ceremony. **(AN, RG)**

**Town Historian:** The Historical Commission is looking to designate a townsperson for this honor.

**Asparagus Festival:** Discussion at the May meeting as to specific items (brochures, binders, etc.) to bring to the festival.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Correspondence:** Cormier Jewelers' ribbon (WB 1889 Grange Hall) to be given to Quaboag Historical Society. Michelle Wyman is purchasing a plaque inscribed ca. 1857 for her house at 51 E. Main Street.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:30 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary