

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Heather Walker and Anne-Marie Nolan with Louise Garwood presiding.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Website: The March through June 2023 minutes need to be posted and outdated events on the Home Page removed from the website. Scenic Road information was not posted for the June 13, 2023 Town Meeting. **(MS)**

Treasurer's Report: Heather read a financial statement reflecting account balances as of May 31, 2023. **(HW)**

Old Indian Cemetery: No update **(LG)**

Methodist Cemetery: No update. **(LG)**

Demolition Delay Bylaw: Meetings will be scheduled over the summer. **(HW, JM)**

Library Programs: No update until fall.

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

Town Hall Maintenance: Louise had sent a letter to the Selectboard and Planning Board. Ron San Angelo, the new town administrator, replied and wishes to meet with the Commission. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 9am. Louise contacted several towns for information on contractors. **(LG)**

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

Facebook page: Louise will attach the paragraph about Scenic Roads. See Scenic Roads below. Louise has a calendar of dates to add interesting information. **(LG)**

Jacob Knight Collection: (April 2024) Heather met with the photographer who has photos and anecdotes regarding Jacob Knight. Discussion centered on advertising, insurance, and a budget for refreshments and a brochure, maybe looking into sources of funding. More to follow. **(HW)**

Scenic Roads: Louise found a paragraph from the State explaining the criteria in simple terms. She will bring this to the Town Meeting. **(LG)**

Little Marshy Meadow: EQLT stated that there are 25 - 4" x 8" and 12 - 8" x 8" bricks ordered, with a guesstimate of a \$3500 profit.

175th Anniversary: Heather will work with Bill Jenkins over the summer on the fall presentation (Center Historic District). Amy Dugas (QHS) is interested in collaborating with the Commission on this event. A presentation on industry by Jeff Robbins was mentioned as a possibility during that month. **Town Historian:** Louise will coordinate with Amy Dugas. Both will present a certificate and a gift card in the fall at the 175th Anniversary presentation. **(LG) (HW)**

Tree on the Common: Louise quoted prices for various size trees and delivery fee with a range of \$360-\$570. Bigelow Nurseries would be the vendor. **(LG)**

Grant for Town Hall: No update. **(HW)**

Boston Post Cane: Camille Koss, 99 years of age, received the Boston Post Cane pin and certificate on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 10 am at Cedarbrook Village in Ware. Louise Garwood, Anne-Marie Nolan, Roland Sickenberger from the Selectboard and Donna Farmer from Rep. Berthiaume presented histories, certificates, and the Boston Post Cane pin. The event was published in local newspapers. The brass plate with Camille Koss's name has been added to the Boston Post Cane case in the Town Hall. **(AN)**

Asparagus Festival: There were six house inquiries which have since been researched, scanned, and will be zip-filed and sent to the interested parties. **(AN, LW)**

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Action Items: 1. Town Hall Maintenance meeting 2. Demolition Delay Planning Sessions 3. Bill Jenkins' talk 4. Jacob Knight exhibition

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:05 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, September 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office. Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary