

The West Brookfield Historical Commission met on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Historical Commission office. Attending were Anne-Marie Nolan, Ryan Gough, and Rachel Gulen with Louise Garwood presiding.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Website: Mike was unable to make the meeting. Louise asked him to add the Brick Fundraiser and Asparagus Festival information on the website.

Treasurer's Report: Heather emailed a financial statement reflecting account balances as of February 28, 2023.

H.S. Scholarship: The applications are due in April.

Old Indian Cemetery: Louise asked the Fannins to put us on their schedule this year for the condition assessment of the stones needing repair and for a tutorial on cleaning gravestones.

Methodist Cemetery: No update as to the nomination work.

Demolition Delay Bylaw: The HC will wait to hear from Jesse next month.

Library Programs: Heather is waiting to hear from Holly as to the library program "Eleanor Roosevelt". Louise spoke with Amy at the Quaboag Historical Society about a possible joint program. She also mentioned the website "Historic New England" which has a list of speakers that members can look at.

Rock House Nomination to the National Historic Register: Louise will work on it this year.

Town Hall Maintenance: Louise will again follow up with Rebecca Acerra on the RFP. It is important that this work be done. Louise put forward some thoughts as to resolving this issue.

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

Facebook page: The Brick Fundraiser for Little Marshy Meadow is listed.

Jacob Knight Collection: Heather is looking into the Ruth Wells Center (Southbridge) as a venue.

Scenic Roads Wickaboag Valley Road: Louise sent a letter to BOS to confirm that this will be put on the Town Meeting warrant. Update to follow.

Metal Detector Signs: Louise will contact Jim Daley.

Little Marshy Meadow: Browse the Brookfields wants to make a tree donation in Dick Rossman's memory. Transplanting from the Lucy Stone Park in Warren will go ahead in the spring/fall.

175th Anniversary: Louise presented mock-ups of West Brookfield sites for the 175th poster idea. She also had mock-ups for business card size magnets to be given at the Asparagus Festival. Prices will be checked. Bill Jenkins is willing to give a talk in the fall, with Heather Walker assisting.

Elm Tree: Louise will contact Jim Daley regarding the tree.

Driveway cut bylaw: Ongoing. Louise will contact Rebekah Cornell.

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

Boston Post Cane: Anne-Marie will contact the next potential recipient.

Town Historian: There is no state program.

Asparagus Festival: The HC will have a table on Saturday, May 20, 2023. There is no fee.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence: Louise followed up on email requests for information on a house on Church Street, for the availability of the History of West Brookfield book, and for anecdotes about Judge Foster.

Meeting adjourned ca. 8:10 P.M.

The next **monthly** meeting will be held on **Monday, April 3, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Historical Commission Office.

Respectfully submitted, Anne-Marie Nolan, Secretary