

March 4, 2024

West Brookfield Historical Commission Minutes

Attendees: Louise Garwood, Anne-Marie Nolan, Jesse Morrison, Michael Sroka, Rachel Gulen & Dan Hamilton

Agenda

February's meeting minutes- vote

Pending Business

Treasurer's Report

Old Indian Cemetery

Old Methodist Cemetery

Demolition Delay for 2024 Town Meeting

Jacob Knight Planning

2023-2024 Scholarship

Scenic Road

Climate Controlled Room

HC Website

New Business:

Adjourn

Meeting Opened - Louise called meeting to order on March 4th, at 7:01 PM.

Last Month's Minutes Approval-

Formatting suggestions and timely sharing of minutes.

Pending Business:

Treasurer's Report: was not presented; Heather Walker unavailable

Old Indian Cemetery: Field works starts in Spring 2024. No actual estimate for date to commence at present. Otherwise, status quo.

Old Methodist Cemetery: Fannin's shared their historical findings and provided their notes to Amy for her proposal writing. Louise raised motion to approved the invoice amount, Rachel seconded the motion and motion carried by members. Louise will send the \$3k invoice to Heather for payment out of the England Account. Heather can complete the payment process online.

Louise shared the rough outline of the proposal from Amy Dugas to complete the submission for Historical Register. Proposal included time to work through any back and forth post submission. Proposal states not to exceed \$3k which would put the work under the \$7k originally carried by the members. Amend the work to be reallocated from Fannins to Amy Dugas from the England Fund. Raised by Louise, Seconded by Mike and carried by the members.

Demolition Delay: Jesse shared that we still have not heard anything back from Sturbridge. Jesse proposed that we send a letter as we have an address for the Sturbridge Historical Commission as we have not had any response for past six months. We are not on track for presenting to Spring; but, hoping for Fall Town Meeting.

Jacob Knight: event moved to September 2024 so we just need to pick the exhibit opening. Rg shared that we just need to be sure to have costs outlined by the last meeting prior to Summer break. We should also figure out how we get a head count for the opening to plan for food. Try to get space capacity and their invitation list. Historical Commission lists from surrounding towns. We would let any local organizations to generate their own invitation lists.

2023-2024 Scholarship - status quo until April deadline.

Scenic Road Process: Flyer needs to go to the printer and edited. Otherwise; status quo.

Climate Control Room: Louise contacted MA Historical Commission who directed her to the State Archives for guidelines. Need to complete the inventory of the contents. The State Archives does have programming to help us with this work.

Historical Commission Website: Louise raised suggestion to leverage samples of other towns as part of the website refresh.

New Business:

Appointment Updates: Dan Hamilton shared that he would like to re-join the Historical Commission as an associate member — no voting rights.

Guest Presentation: Dan shared that he set up the computer to the wireless network. He suggested we prioritized what needs to be digitized first either due to condition or location. Probably need individual user ids and passwords for audit trail or just one for the organization. Ann-Marie stated that it would be nice to also be able to print to other printers in the building.

Genealogy Presentation: Dan asked if we would be willing to announce his upcoming event on our FB Page and/or Website. Mike S.

Asparagus Festival Booth: May 18th, 10-3

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: meeting was ended at 8:17 PM.

Next Meeting is scheduled for June 3rd