

June 2, 2025

West Brookfield Historical Commission Minutes

Attendees: Louise Garwood, Dan Hamilton, Heather Walker, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Jesse Morrison

Agenda

Call to order

Minutes May review - vote

Treasurer's Report

Pending Business:

Jacob Knight Planning- organize summer schedule for at least one session to review progress.

Re-assessment Old Indian Cemetery – Final decision for project. Choose conservator.

Website and Digital - Dan scanning updates.

Asparagus Festival- Inquiries, report- AM, Dan and LG attending to list.

Town Hall updates- none to date.

New Business

Meeting Opened: Louise called the meeting to order on June 2, 2025, at 7:02pm.

Call to order: Attending: Louise Garwood, Heather Walker, Jesse Morrison, Anne-Marie Nolan, and Dan Hamilton.

May Minutes Approval: Motion was raised by Anne-Marie, seconded by Dan and motion carried with no discussion.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read the report with submitted payments and approved expenditures. The motion to approve the report was raised by Anne-Marie, seconded by Jesse. Motion carried with no discussion. Heather noted that Stephen DiRado will purchase what he needs and will be reimbursed in the next fiscal year, therefore there is money left to be spent on other items. Dan made a motion, seconded by Louise and Jesse, to purchase 2 gallons of D2 for gravestone cleaning at \$45.95 each from the town account. Jesse made a motion, seconded by Dan, to purchase labelmaker tapes for \$12 from the town account. Jesse made a motion, seconded by Dan, to purchase printed posters and postcards for the Jacob Knight exhibit not to exceed \$316 from the town account. Louise will purchase these and will be reimbursed. All 3 motions carried with no discussion. Louise brought \$80 to the town treasurer to be deposited in the town's book account. Dan received his payment for March and April scanning work.

Pending Business:

Jacob Knight Planning: There is a meeting planned with Kirk Jaskoviak for June 16, 2025, at 7pm in the Commission office. Kirk will bring his collection of Jacob Knight memorabilia (loan or donation). Dan has pictures of what was in JK's house, a half-dozen videotapes, and 1984 MacNeil/Lehrer footage - Dan will have 3 interviews (Eric Glass, Kirk Jaskoviak, and Stephen DiRado); Ruth and Rob Lyon are still on hold. There are about 10 hours of JK on video which Dan has digitized. Discussion ensued focusing on setting up the rooms for the exhibition, opening day, scheduling coverage, etc. Heather's plan- August: reception menu, (via email) finalized in October; Sept: publicity, save the date; Sept/Oct: mailing postcards; November: installation, purchasing food for opening day reception; December: mailing thank you cards. A gathering/cookout will be held at Heather's home on July 27th at 1pm to have a stamping party and a quick re-cap. Later, Heather showed an object list with images of what would be exhibited.

Re-Assessment of OIC: Jesse reported that the Ludlow Memorial Company quoted an additional \$100 per stone for documentation which only involves taking a picture before and after. He will investigate further with LMC clients regarding their satisfaction with work performance and historic documentation. A decision on choosing a company will wait until more information is available. Dan mentioned that TaMara Conde (HGS) will be at the Brookfield Cemetery on Saturday June 28 at 10 – 3 for gravestone cleaning. (they are going to reschedule due to low # rsvp)

Web/Digital Scanning Update: Dan is working on the bottom drawer of file cabinet (T) and Bill Jenkins' third box. All will be accessible and searchable online under the Jedediah Foster Google Drive. Dan is available to answer questions as to how to access.

Asparagus Festival: Inquiries received have been answered, with one in-person meeting scheduled later.

Town Hall: No update, other than the contractor is supposed to come this week with his list.

New Business:

Scholarship in honor of William Jankins: Dan suggested this. Louise made a motion to name the annual scholarship in honor of William Jankins, seconded by Jesse; motion carried with no discussion. Dan suggested naming a program as Richard Rossman memorial "lecture or program". More to follow in the fall, after discussion with library/Senior Center.

Final Supply List: Louise will take care of this as mentioned above.

Stephen DiRado retrospective: Heather and Rachel attended the photography retrospective on May 25, 2025.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Motion was raised by Jesse, seconded by Dan, and carried with no discussion. The meeting ended at 8:15 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2025, at 7pm.