

Attending: Heather Walker, Dan Hamilton, Jesse Morrison, and Louise Garwood Zoom meeting due to weather

Agenda

Call to order

Minutes November review - vote

Treasurer's Report

**Pending Business:**

Jake Knight – Debrief and comments

Website and Digital - Dan scanning updates, and more

Town Hall Construction review updates

**New Business:**

Commission Goals 2026

Town Hall issues

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**Meeting Opened:** Heather called the meeting to order on January 5, 2026 at 7:03 pm.

Call to order: Attending: Heather Walker, Dan Hamilton, Jesse Morrison and Louise Garwood (quorum)

November Minutes Approval: Motion was raised by Heather, seconded by Jesse, and motion carried with no discussion.

Minutes will be posted by Dan on website.

Treasurer's Report: Heather read the Jan 6 report with approved expenditures and submitted payments including \$400. to Dan and \$196.42 to Anne-Marie for JK food expenses, all from the Town account. All expenses approved. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously. Heather will email copies to LG.

**Pending Business:**

Jacob Knight Debrief: Heather reported approx.. 175 visitors over 6 days, many of whom had never been to RWCA previously. DH/HW did video walkthrough for documentation, perhaps the footage to be used to create documentary about show? JM suggested displaying the collection somewhere in town. HW mentioned Town Hall hallways; library; Salem Cross Inn and possibly as topic for annual talk series at the Senior Center. The exhibition was a success. The materials are currently stored and framed for potential further use. ( All members will propose options for further displays)

Web/Digital Scanning Update: Dan has digitized most A-V materials, (CDs, DVDs, and slides. He is still working on accessing old floppy disks. Content of digitized A-V are footage of historical events, cemetery headstones, oral histories. DH reported 80% of free 15 GB storage is used, additional storage would cost 2.15 / per year for 200 GB. HW suggests paying annually for easier acct. Commission will vote in February on purchasing additional storage. DH will post Nov. minutes on website. Virus protection to be discussed at Feb. Meeting (All members to look into)

Town Hall: Louise attended meeting with Architect, Bob Haveles, Select board Cami, Town admin. Theresa, asst. TA Beth. Bob invited Preservation Consultant Brian Lever. The major issue currently the slate roof structural condition- which is evaluated as just shy of causing the building to be condemned. The architect Bob Haveles has asked if the town wished to call in a preservation consultant in order to communicate with MHC on the options for repair that would be in compliance with the Preservation Restriction. Brian Lever of Epsilon Assoc, Maynard Ma. services will be used. His cost for writing up the and evaluation of roof and request for approval from MHC for use of architectural asphalt shingles instead of slates will cost the town about 7,000. ( In the past Town Hall update planning we paid for the Arch. Assessment (2,800. In 2020)

[\*It has recently come to my attention that at the Jan 6 Selectboard meeting, Advisory Chair suggested that the HC Trusts be accessed for contributing to Town Hall project, This could include Preservation Consultant fees (\$7000.) To come from England Fund. (We already went to town meeting in 2000 to request monies for town hall repairs. (being awarded 72,000.) Additionally we paid for Beth Sitterlys original Maintenance Report to keep the building in compliance with the Preservation Restriction.) It was suggested at that J6 Selectboard meeting that the former chair refused to pay out of HC Trust funds for construction costs.]

Goals 2026 : The Commission reviewed and updated goals for 2026-2027 See attached sheet.(LG)

**New Business:**

Pickleball group contacted us to attach a fee collection box on wall. The commission does not approve this. They were informed. Louise will contact Elementary school to find schedule slot for pickleball in gymnasium. (LG)

Town Hall Security System-External and internal as well as internal listening devices. Who is listening and for what purpose?

Library programming: Louise will meet with library dir. Amy Agro for ideas and costs. (LG)

Scholarship: LG A-M will work on

Demo-Delay: Jesse will create list of historic properties.

Facebook HC page: Heather will look into page setup to reduce or eliminate advertisement posts. (HW)

**Motion to adjourn the meeting:** Motion to adjourn was raised to adjourn at 8:15pm. Seconded by all. Next Meeting February 2<sup>nd</sup>.