

**Wakefield, New Hampshire
Heritage Commission
August 1, 2018, 7 PM ~ Heritage Centre at Wakefield Corner
Approved**

Members & others in attendance:

Chair Pam Wiggin, members Rick Poore, Phil Twombly, Tracey Kolb, Snooky Shea, Nancy Hall, Selectman's Rep Connie Twombly, guest Ann Bell, WHC Administrative Assistant Larissa Mulkern and videographer Donna Martin;

Absent: Members Annette Perry, Helen Watkins

Pledge: The meeting commenced at approximately 7 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. Tracey stepped in as member in Annette's absence.

Minutes: July 9, June 4, April 4 and Feb. 21: Approval of the Feb. 21 and April 4 minutes was postponed due to lack of quorum of members who attended those meetings. **A motion to approve the June 4 minutes as submitted was made by Phil, seconded by Rick. Members voted all in favor, with exception of Connie, who abstained, and the motion passed.**

Financials: Funds received at Union Station from June 26 through July 22 \$126, plus \$20 Phil turned in at the meeting. On Heritage Day, we took in \$345 in food sales; \$41 in donations and \$5 in sales. Pam turned in \$497 and has another \$20 (from Phil), and at Spinney Meeting House, two-thirds of the donations/offering from the special church service went to the Heritage Commission and one-third went to the First Congregational Church; our share was \$140.50. East Wakefield School, we received \$105 -- \$100 donation from the reunion and \$5 from a donation today. And the Grange, the night of the mock meeting we had a \$5 donation for a total of \$767.50.

Meeting Date & Time: Phil made a motion to keep the WHC meeting time/date on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. (first Wednesday of the month). The motion was seconded by Nancy. Discussion ensued -- Connie can't do the meeting earlier on Monday or Wednesday night; Tracey prefers an earlier meeting time. Pam noted the videographer is only available on Monday or Wednesday. Donna noted that Tuesdays are pretty open, Mondays are booked. She is also available on Thursdays, the second and the fourth, and all Fridays. **Pam suggested keeping the meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. for the rest of this year and revisit the time/date next spring. Members voted all in favor and the motion passed.**

East Wakefield School Reunion: The class reunion was a great success with a really good turnout. Tom Beeler did a great write-up for the newspaper. There is interest in holding a reunion every year. The WHC received a \$100 donation at the reunion; and two people expressed interest in making donations, perhaps in memory of a loved one. Pam is thinking of a memory board or something we could do similar to the Garvin Building, but not at a \$500 donation. Rick was at the school today as a docent. He said

many people stopped by, many of whom were not students there, and thought the school and exhibits were terrific. He received positive feedback about the improvements the Commission has made to the school, while capturing the feeling of the one room school house and bringing back fond memories for those who attended. Snooky, Phil and Rick were thanked for moving the school bell to the School House. Pam said the bell was a highlight of today's exhibit -- people were really interested in it. Relating some history of the bell, Pam said the village of Sanbornville was built up and created with the coming of the railroad in 1872. The Grammar School in Sanbornville was built in 1876 and John Sanborn, for whom the town is named, donated the bell to the Grammar School. Sanborn's son was the first teacher there. People are amazed at this little part of history -- many don't realize Sanbornville is such a young community. We've added several displays since the reunion. Pam said information will be added about the town's 12 school districts, as well as the Wakefield and Dow academies and the Hazel McBrien Nursery School, the first cooperative nursery school in the state. Connie added that students used to be able to take turns to ring the bell. After the article that Tom ran on the East Wakefield School, an individual donated a school desk that is now in the Heritage Centre office.

Grange Mock Meeting: Phil reported on the meeting. He was disappointed that more 'civilians' didn't attend but that overall the event went very well, with volunteers doing their job. It was a good night and people enjoyed it. We received a \$5 donation from one of the guests.

Spinney Meeting House Special Service: Pam reported on the event. Thirty-nine people attended the service. Rick and Tracey served as greeters. We had wonderful coverage in the newspaper. One guest said the church was used by Christian Scientists. Pam will research this. Another young man said he was a descendent of Spinney. Rev. Mary James did a wonderful job with the service as did Susie Goodwin who played the pump organ. They noted since the acoustics were so good in the church, perhaps it could be used for a music series. Pam said we've had events there in the past, as we were restoring it over the years. Pam would like to make the service an annual event and ask other churches to participate.

Heritage Park/Heritage Day: Phil reported on this event. Overall it worked out well. We had the cookout up by Union Station instead of down at the Drew Mill -- we made out better this year than last year. Phil heard from folks who appreciated the NH Northcoast train coming down [with a locomotive, hopper car and cabooses, with Engineer Cory Fothergill and Conductor Jordan Buck]. It was a big attraction and we should send a Thank You. Everybody loved the tower. We made a little money. Pam said expenses that day totaled \$169.07 -- we made \$240 that day. Connie added that people who used to live nearby stopped by and thought the tower was pretty. Pam said new visitors attended as well as a few who hadn't visited in a while. Also, she met with Rick Ashton, whose grandfather invented the Ashton gauge used on steam locomotives. He offered to do an exhibit on the gauges and valves. He sent a sample of what he'd like to do. Perhaps it could be done opening day, June 29, 2019, with a program highlighting the cabooses and the snow plow.

Plow Car: Rick reported on the progress. The heat has been a bit of an issue, but the work on the side and the back should be done in six, half-days, and ready for paint. Pam said when the work is done, there will be another estimate for expenses to finish the other side and the roof.

August Docents: Docents will be needed at Union Station on Aug. 11 and 12. Tracey needs docent coverage at the East Wakefield School on Aug. 11 and 18. Pam was with Amy at the school today rather than at the Heritage Centre; displays at the Centre need to be freshened up -- there is not a lot of traffic. We need to add more exhibits from other parts of town -- all the villages. The school and Heritage Park in Union seem to get the most interest. Nancy plans to be at the station every Sunday in August.

Building Use: Pam reported on this topic. The Selectmen are looking into a plan for the use of the various town buildings; I sent a list of the buildings that we have to [Town Administrator] Kelley Collins and basically the only one we can be sure of making available for public use in the Spinney Meeting House. There might be a possibility of having something at the School. Kelley is preparing to bring something to the Selectmen that is reasonable for all the buildings -- we as a board can decide if we want to make it stricter, or add something if we want, but we won't be able to change the basic policy. The policy would apply to private events.

Non-public RSA 91-A:3 ii (c): Connie moved to enter Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, ii (c) at 7:37 p.m., seconded by Nancy. Roll call vote: Rick Poore - 'yes'; Connie Twombly - 'aye'; Nancy Hall - 'yes'; Tracey Kolb - 'yes'; Phil Twombly - 'yes'; Pam Wiggin - 'yes'. The motion passed 6-0, and the Board entered Non-Public Session [at this point Ann Bell and Donna Martin left the meeting area.] The topic was nominations of Commission alternates.

A motion was made by Tracey and seconded by Connie to return to public session at 8:04 p.m. Roll call vote: Rick Poore - 'yes'; Connie Twombly - 'yes'; Snooky Shea, 'yes'; Pam Wiggin - 'yes', Tracey Kolb - 'yes'; Nancy Hall - 'yes.'

Connie made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session indefinitely, seconded by Rick. Roll call vote: Rick Poore - 'yes'; Connie Twombly - 'yes'; Snooky Shea, 'yes'; Pam Wiggin - 'yes', Tracey Kolb - 'yes'; Nancy Hall - 'yes.' The minutes will be reviewed, approved then stored in the vault.

Pam announced that the Commission acted on three applications for alternates to the Heritage Commission. The Commission approved the nomination of Ann Bell and voted not to approve nominations of Robert Baxter and Rose Baxter. The Board of Selectmen will consider the nomination of Ann Bell and if approved, she will be sworn in at Town Hall then take a seat at the next Commission meeting.

Other Business: Budget: Pam said she would like to request 20 additional hours for the administrative assistant with a rate increase that would be up to the Selectmen. The

WHS approved minutes 8.1.18

position is more than just clerical. Phil suggested asking for \$15 an hour. Commissioners reviewed other items including line items for Training, Electricity, Heat and AC, Memberships, Advertising, Postage, Misc. Expense, and Historic Site Renovation.

Other Business: Capital Improvement Program Planning: The town is working to update its Capital Improvement Program plan for 2019-2014. In the past, the Heritage Commission has not added to this list. The Commission discussed looking into moving the Freight House once owned by PSNH to Turntable Park. **Phil made a motion to look to acquire and move the Freight House to Turntable Park, seconded by Tracey. Members voted all in favor and the motion passed.**

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Connie and seconded by Rick at 8:31 p.m. Members voted all in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:
Larissa Mulkern
Administrative Assistant
Wakefield Heritage Commission