

HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, 14 May 2014

Present: Marilou MacLean; Harriet Wilson; Patricia Golden; Stephen Michalsky; Brian Robischeau; Rich Zacher; Ed Nason; and Fred Cann.

The meeting was preceded by a field trip to the Churchill Schoolhouse to review progress of the renovation. Marilou suggested moving the safe into the Schoolhouse to use for display and storage. We discussed the lights for the Schoolhouse; Steve will obtain information on light fixtures for the appropriate era.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Marilou MacLean. Patricia reported that both she and Steve have been sworn in as members of the Heritage Commission; Marilou welcomed Steve to the Commission and will get the necessary recommendation to the selectmen

Brian moved to accept the minutes of January 15, 2014; Harriet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Patricia moved to accept the minutes of April 9, 2014; Harriet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Patricia has a lead on someone to do a genealogical workshop. We are looking at a Saturday morning (9:00 am to 12:00 noon) or afternoon (1:00 pm to 4:00 pm), and would hold the workshop in the Town Office Building. Craig Evans would need to be present to obtain information from the vault. August 9 was one suggestion, but it would depend on the schedule of the presenter.

Old Home Day will be moved to Saturday, August 16, as Rick Surette is not available on the previous Saturday. This change has been cleared with most of the folks who usually help out at the dinner. The Town House will be open that day, and the Conservation Commission will be offering hikes. It is possible that Clean-Up Day will also be held then. Patricia has a conflict in the afternoon, but should be available for the dinner.

Marilou reported that she has prepared a brief article for the Town newsletter asking people to donate money for one of the 10 windows being replaced in the Schoolhouse. The cost of each window is \$350. Harriet moved that the Heritage Commission donate the cost of one window; Patricia seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. There is also a Townsperson who has already agreed to donate one window. Marilou also recommends donating the cost of the paint for the chimney and the cabinets; Ed Nason suggested using an epoxy paint which will bind the existing paint to the surface (the old paint will not be scraped off). The chimney will be capped in the attic, out of view.

Geary Ciccarone will take care of getting the cabinet doors open and planing them so they will open and close easily.

We discussed the possible Veterans Memorial. Brian would like to list everyone who "served in a conflict". We discussed including those who were residents of Brookfield at the time of service or who are buried here. Marilou wants to be sure our criteria include James Hackett, who was a Revolutionary War hero and is buried here, but did not live here until he retired. The plan is to list all Brookfield veterans from the Revolution to the present. Marilou will contact Dennis Herman, current president of the Historical Society to arrange a time when she and Patricia (as Historical Society members) can visit the Red School House and look for veteran records. We can start our list with those mentioned in the Town History, those on the lists in the Town House, and those whose graves are decorated for Memorial Day. Ed and Brian both feel the Memorial should be located in front of the Town House (near where the flagpole and sign are now).

Marilou recommended that members attend a workshop in Ossipee on Ma 20 (5:30 pm) entitled "Who is Keeping Your Town Records". (Harriet is planning to attend.) She also reported on the NH Historical Society presentations on Paul Revere's ride to Portsmouth in December of 1774 which warned the residents that the British were planning to reinforce the garrison at Fort William & Mary in New Castle. The colonists were able to remove the gunpowder and arms before the British arrived. The other presentation was a visit with Rachel Revere (Paul's second wife).

During the repairs and renovations to the rafters and ceiling in the Churchill Schoolhouse, the portion of the chimney which went through the attic and roof collapsed. The bricks have been saved and Marilou proposes selling them as a fund-raiser. She had brought one of the bricks, and Ed and Rich were able to clean it with water and a wire brush. Ed will investigate the cost of having an inscription sandblasted into each brick. (The stencil would be rubber and not affected by the sandblasting.) Other suggestions were to number each brick, or to tie a tag with historical information on it to each one with a pretty ribbon. The bricks will be sold for \$10 and we will keep a list of everyone who buys one.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, June 11, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Wilson