



# ***Town of Brookfield, NH Newsletter***

Volume 1, Number 36 \_\_\_\_\_ June 2017

## **History of the Brookfield Newsletter**

Twenty years ago, four ladies in town felt it was important to establish communication within the community. Carolyn Chase, Elizabeth Heinlein, Martha Pike, and Ann Pinkham formed the first ever "Community Affairs Committee". Their mission was to promote cohesiveness within Brookfield through communication and a calendar of special events. The establishment of this committee resulted in several accomplishments to better our town, including the Newsletter that we are still receiving with our tax bill.

The first editor of the Newsletter was Martha Pike, who lives at 195 Governors Road; she is known for her beautiful day lilies that we all enjoy seeing every summer. She took on the job of gathering the information and setting up the format, which is still used today. She wrote the letters and had them printed, while a group of volunteers helped fold them. Martha did the job for many years until new volunteers took over. She was succeeded by Zina Cerrone, and then Susan Jalbert; Richard Peckham now does the folding. We thank them very much for their time and dedication!

The Newsletter is now being produced through the Selectmen's office, and we are seeking volunteers. Whether you are interested in writing, editing, layout, or folding, please consider helping to carry on this important method of communication.

## **Tax Collector Notes**

2016 was a fairly uneventful year in tax collecting; everything went pretty smoothly. The 2016 Property Tax Warrant was for \$1,785,167.00 and prior to lien, \$48,344.02 was still unpaid, which means 93% of the 2016 warrant was collected. The tax lien was held on April 14, 2017 with 19 properties going to lien. 4 deed notices were sent and all but 1 have been paid. The town was helped, because more than the usual number of Current Use Change Tax Warrants have been issued.

Things are looking good for 2017 and I wish everyone a long, fun and sunny summer.

Diana Peckham (your Tax Collector)

## **Planning Board**

### ***Developing the Master Plan***

The Planning Board formally invites all Brookfield residents to participate in charting the growth of our great town. Our aim is to develop a Master Plan that will guide us in defining future policies and goals, and influence expenditures. This huge undertaking involves in-depth analysis and feedback that only you can supply. Please consider attending Planning Board meetings for the next few months. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm at the Town Office building. Your participation will have a direct impact on the future of agriculture, conservation, services, and taxes in Brookfield.

David Champy II, Chairman

## **Cemetery Trustees**

### ***Family Burial Grounds***

In keeping with the rolling hills and stone walls, Brookfield is known for its more than 65 family graveyards. While families are proud of their heritage and private graveyards, there are some very specific state regulations for burials on your own property. These regulations may be found online at:

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXVI/289/289-mrg.htm>.

These regulations govern the placement of the graveyard as well as the necessary records that must be maintained. It is important to note that the homeowner of a private burial site must provide the same information as required for a public cemetery. This is necessary for the purpose of accurate record

keeping, particularly when property is sold, and for future family members or friends researching genealogy.

The Cemetery Trustees and Brookfield Town Clerk would appreciate any information of an old graveyard or a newly established graveyard on your property. This information would include the location and any names and dates of the deceased of which you have knowledge. The Cemetery Trustees strive to keep the town records up to date and accurate.

Please email any information to [cemetery.trustee@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:cemetery.trustee@brookfieldnh.org).

Thank you for your assistance.

## **Conservation Commission**

### ***Town cleanup***

The Conservation Commission sponsored the annual roadside cleanup on Saturday, April 22, in conjunction with the Selectmen's breakfast. Sixteen people signed up to fill blue bags and several others participated in the cleanup. As a result of this group effort, over one hundred pounds of roadside debris was sent to recycling.

### ***Town property update***

After the town purchased the new town property in October of 2016, the Selectmen asked the Conservation Commission to assist in managing the property. The Commission agreed. Richard Zacher has volunteered to build kiosks to be placed at the entrances of the "Brookfield Town Preserve," as the property will be called. Plans for plotting and marking walking trails in the preserve are being discussed, as is the creation of a parking area at the entrance on Lyford Road. Anyone interested in assisting is welcome and should get in touch with any member of the Commission. The members are listed on the town website at [www.brookfieldnh.org](http://www.brookfieldnh.org).

### ***New members***

The Commission has welcomed two new members, Bob Nielsen and Frank Frazier.

Thomas Hill, Chairman

## **Heritage Commission**

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the town you live in? The Heritage Commission is looking for new members to join! Heritage Commissions do for cultural resources what Conservation Commissions do for natural resources. Functionally, Heritage Commissions are somewhere between historical societies and historic district commissions, with their precise role determined locally. Please consider attending a future meeting to learn more about Brookfield's Heritage Commission! You can also learn more by at:

[https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/publications/documents/hc\\_factsheet.pdf](https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/publications/documents/hc_factsheet.pdf)

### ***Annual Old Home Day Dinner***

The Heritage Commission is sponsoring the 9th Annual Old Home Day Dinner with Bar-B-Q prepared by the Heritage Commission and our Selectman, Rick Surette, of SeaBrisket fame. Please join your friends and neighbors on Saturday, August 12, 2017, for a great dinner followed by music. Please mark your calendars and join us!

### **Supervisors of the Checklist**

Our next scheduled election is March 13, 2018.

Thank you to the 63 residents who braved the March 14, 2017, snow storm to vote in the town election, and the 56 residents and 2 guests who attended the postponed town meeting on March 18.

If you are interested in registering to vote, please see the town clerk, Virginia McGinley, during her regular office hours. The town office is open Mondays from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm, Tuesdays from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm, and the last Saturday of every month from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

### **Moderator's Report**

It's been an exciting spring for elections!

Inclement weather hit on March 14th, the day of the town election. Following the advice of Governor Sununu's office, we went forward with the election, and despite the weather, turnout was reasonable for an uncontested town election at 14%. Much of the excitement occurred after the election, as there was considerable doubt as to the legality of postponing the election. The selectmen and I are glad that your decisions were not nullified, and that we did not incur

the expense of holding a special election to ratify the results.

There was clear authority to postpone the town meeting due to weather, which was moved to Saturday, March 18th. We were happy to see some of our younger families in attendance and getting involved. Support was high to move future meetings to Saturday, though to do so legally requires petitioning the Selectmen to put the change on next year's warrant. The change would take two years to go into effect. Ed Comeau offered to collect signatures in support of this move.

We have a professional and dedicated crew of election workers, and I hope the whole town joins me in appreciating their efforts. Craig Evans continues to be my assistant moderator. Frank Frazier and Susan Brown serve as inspectors for their parties, and also as ballot clerks. Susan would like to be replaced, so if you are interested and a registered Republican, please get in touch. Doug Vanderpool continues as our most experienced ballot clerk. We also appreciate the work of our town clerk, Virginia McGinley, and our supervisors of the checklist, Rose Zacher and Cheryl Perry. We all welcome Karen Servacek to our crew, and thank Jessica Robischeau for her service.

The next scheduled election is the town election on March 13, 2018.

William M Marsh, Moderator

#### **Reminders:**

**Emergency care files update:** Residents are responsible to advise the county sheriff's office (539-2284) and Wakefield Fire Department of any special circumstances that those responding would need to be aware of. Call the Wakefield Fire Department's non-emergency number (522-3232) to list anyone who is on a life support ventilator, uses an oxygen system or any other type of life support system that runs on electricity, is bedridden and would need to be moved in the event of power failure, or lives alone and may need to be checked on in the event of power failure.

**Severe Emergencies:** In case of extended power outages or other emergencies, the Town House will be open to provide water, cooking facilities, and

shelter to residents in need. Please contact the Selectmen for access.

**Please visit the Town website for Emergency Alerts @ [www.brookfieldnh.org](http://www.brookfieldnh.org).**

You can also "Subscribe to E-Alerts" and choose which notifications you would like to receive. Your options include: News & Announcements, Minutes, and/or Agendas. This is a great tool to use to know more about what's happening in your town.

The Town of Brookfield is on Facebook! Please visit and **like** the towns page at [www.facebook.com/BrookfieldNHTown](http://www.facebook.com/BrookfieldNHTown).

**Dog licenses** must be renewed by April 30 or a civil forfeiture fine of \$25.00 will be incurred in addition to a late fee of one dollar a month. Renewal forms will be available starting January 1st. Rabies shots must be current. Bring a rabies certificate from your veterinarian as proof. See the Town Clerk for new licenses.

**You are reminded** that injury or destruction of any cemetery or burial ground including monuments, tombs, fences, gates, and other structures is a felony. RSA 635.6

**Intent to Cut and Intent to Excavate** forms must be signed by the Selectmen and filed with the Code Enforcement Officer before work begins. Get applications from Ed Nason, our Code Enforcement Officer.

**Town Driveway Permits** are mandatory when putting in a driveway accessing a town road. Apply to the Code Enforcement Officer. State permits are required for accessing state roads.

**Protect our town from forest fire!** Get permits from the fire warden or the deputies, for all open burning you plan.

Brad or Janet Williamson, 522-6018

Michael Moore, 447-9141

David Champy II, 978-6592

## ABBREVIATED BROOKFIELD CALENDAR June 2017 – November 2017

**Selectmen Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 6:30 PM

**Selectmen Hours:** Last Saturday of the month 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Administrative Assistant:** Wednesdays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Assessor Clerk:** Fridays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Town Clerk:** Mondays 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Tuesdays 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Last Sat. of the month 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Tax Collector:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Building/Code Enforcement:** Thursdays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Conservation Commission:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 6:00 PM

**Heritage Commission:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 PM

**Planning Board:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 6:30 PM

**Trustees of Trust Funds:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Jan, Apr, July, Oct. 6:30 PM

**Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society:** Little Red Schoolhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays 7:00 PM

**Brookfield/Wakefield Food Pantry:** 1500 Wakefield Road (Route 153) Wakefield, NH 03872. Open every Wednesday year round from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**School Board:** Meetings are typically held on Mondays. Call 569-1658 or check [www.govwentworth.k12.nh.us](http://www.govwentworth.k12.nh.us)

**Last day of school 2017:** June 26, half day **EXCEPT** Effingham Elementary & New Durham Schools June 23, full day,

**Kingswood HS graduation:** June 17 at 10:00am

## ABBREVIATED BROOKFIELD DIRECTORY

**Town Offices: 522-3688**

**Town Fax: 522-6245**

**EMERGENCIES: Call 911 for Fire, Police, and Ambulance**

**Website: [www.brookfieldnh.org](http://www.brookfieldnh.org)**

**Selectmen:** Rich Zacher, **Chair** 522-6651 email: [rpzacher@gmail.com](mailto:rpzacher@gmail.com)  
Brian Robischeau, **Vice Chair** 522-5122, email: [brian4selectman@hotmail.com](mailto:brian4selectman@hotmail.com)  
Richard Surette, 918-6962 email: [rick@seabrisket.com](mailto:rick@seabrisket.com)

**Administrative Assistant:** Laurie Champy 522-3688 email: [admin.asst@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:admin.asst@brookfieldnh.org)

**Assessor Clerk:** Jessica Robischeau 522-3688 email: [assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org)

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Ed Nason, 520-3686 email: [code.enforcement@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:code.enforcement@brookfieldnh.org)

**Tax Collector:** Diana Peckham, 522-3688 or 522-6551 email: [tax.collector@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:tax.collector@brookfieldnh.org)

**Town Clerk:** Virginia McGinley, 522-3688 or 522-3231 email: [brookfieldnhct@hotmail.com](mailto:brookfieldnhct@hotmail.com)

**Town Treasurer:** Marilou MacLean, 522-5338 email: [treasurer@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:treasurer@brookfieldnh.org)

**Cemetery Trustees:** Tom Hill, **Chair** 522-6730 email: [cemetery.trustee@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:cemetery.trustee@brookfieldnh.org)

**Conservation Commission:** Tom Hill, **Chair** 522-6730 email: [conservation.commission@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:conservation.commission@brookfieldnh.org)

**Heritage Commission:** Marilou MacLean, **Chair** 522-5338 email: [uwmailou@hotmail.com](mailto:uwmailou@hotmail.com)

**Planning Board:** David Champy II, **Chair** 978-6592 email: [pb.chair@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:pb.chair@brookfieldnh.org)

**Supervisor of Checklist:** Rose Zacher, 522-6651 email: [supervisor.checklist@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:supervisor.checklist@brookfieldnh.org)

**Trustee of the Trust Funds:** Richard Nordin, **Chair** 522-0020 email: [trustee.trust.fund@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:trustee.trust.fund@brookfieldnh.org)

**Zoning Board of Adjustment:** Paul Tremblay, **Chair** 345-1164 email: [zoning.board@brookfieldnh.org](mailto:zoning.board@brookfieldnh.org)

**Animal Control Officer:** David Landry, Wakefield Police Dept., 522-3232

**Brookfield Archivist:** Craig Evans, 522-5069 email: [selectcraig@roadrunner.com](mailto:selectcraig@roadrunner.com)

**Emergency Management Director:** Brad Williamson, 522-6018 email: [janbrad@roadrunner.com](mailto:janbrad@roadrunner.com)

**Fire Warden:** Brad Williamson, 522-6018 email: [janbrad@roadrunner.com](mailto:janbrad@roadrunner.com)

**Moderator:** Dr. William Marsh, 569-6382 email: [wmarshmd@gmail.com](mailto:wmarshmd@gmail.com)

**NH Fish and Game Region 2:** (Lakes Region): 744-5740 email: [reg2@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg2@wildlife.nh.gov)

**State Police Communications:** (24 hrs) 1.800-832-2100

**VNA: Hospice:** 569-2729 General Inquires, email: [intake@vnahospice.net](mailto:intake@vnahospice.net)

**Wakefield Transfer Station:** Open to permit holders: Friday through Monday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Welfare Officer:** Lynn Watts, 473-1084 email: [watts.lynn@yahoo.com](mailto:watts.lynn@yahoo.com)