

**NORTHFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 69 Main St, Northfield, MA
Monday, November 13, 2017, at 4:00 PM**

Present: Don Campbell, Joe Graveline, Bob Hall, Carol Lebo, Lisa McLoughlin, Sue Ross, Joan Stoia
Guest: Nick Fleck (5:00pm)

Call to Order by Carol Lebo: 4:06pm

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

October 30, 2017 minutes: discussion: **motion to accept:** Joe; **second:** Sue; passes unanimously.

Mail

- Planning Board is meeting Thursday about Marijuana.

Old Business - updates

- **Northfield Center Cemetery & plaque for Marie Ferre – Sue**
Any opportunity to get public money would be enhanced if the Friends of Northfield Cemeteries group were in operation. Sue talked with Joel Fowler and has calls into the Town Accountant and others.
Bob visits the Cemetery once a week and notices more stones turned over and vandalized; he will begin a count of broken/fallen headstones and date it, repeat once or twice. If there is suggestion of ongoing vandalism, NHC will report it to the police. Dennis Brennan of the Veterans Commission (413-522-0995 DenisBrennan3@gmail.com.) may be willing to come to a NHC meeting. The concerns: no actual count of the number of veterans or connection with the wars in which they served as well as mismarked graves. Bob Henry also stated interest. NHC will dedicate part of a future meeting and invite others including Open Space and Boy Scouts to brainstorm.
- **24 Main Street – Joe, Joan, Lis:** No posted meeting about this by the Planning Board. Joan was not sure if she had a mandate to call Leigh Youngblood to find an environmental philanthropist for 24 Main St. Discussion of involvement with Mt. Grace. Lis recuses herself. Question about Willie's discussing 24 Main St. with the town attorney; he hasn't reported to us yet. Carol will follow up with him. Joe recuses himself from this part of the discussion.
- **Motion:** Carol: The Historical Commission will ask for a grant from the CPC to purchase an appropriate plaque for the Boy Scout House. **Second:** Joan; **Amend:** Joan: a maximum of \$250; discussion: Carol **amend:** Joan talk with Steve Seredynski to find out the dimensions and details of supplier and an estimate to apply to the CPC by January 15th. **Second** the doubly amended motion: Joe. No discussion: vote: unanimous in favor.
- Sue, Joan, and Carol went to Willie's meeting on November 1, 2017: well attended, interesting.
- November 9, 2017 Carol went to the CPC meeting. Sparse attendance, information available online.
- Sue checked on Dickinson plaque with Historical Society, no luck. She will ask Margot Fleck; she called Tom Walker and will visit town garage. Sue has DOT information and will manage this inquiry from them.
- Lis has made her research available to Battlefield Grant people to crowdsource the Council Fires research.
- Carol distributes the project submission form for CPC. Due January 15th. Total amount available is unknown.

New Business

- **Grant planning for the year** - Carol-no update on MHC.
- **MOU - Tribal Historic Preservation of Ceremonial Stone Landscapes – Lis, Joe**
Bob asks why restricted to stone landscapes not just landscapes? Subsequent MOUs for specific projects.

Carol: While NHC can make a MOU, should we go through the SB? Joe suggests we pass this through Willie to be sure town council can support it; he would like to see the Select Board be included, but we can clear the legality through the Town Administrator and then go to the next stage.

Bob: If a tribe wants to designate a structure as Tribal can they do so? Joe: they can only ID the significance, not take possession. If it's private property, it'll remain private. The Tribes create a relationship with the landowner as has happened throughout Northfield history.

Carol introduces Nick Fleck.

After lengthy discussion concerning MOU in general and specific, Joe remarks that we don't have to complete the conversation today. We must use integrity and transparency, engaging and bringing all into the conversation. **Motion:** Joan: Carol and Joe will meet with Willie about the feedback from the lawyers and on the MOU. **Second:** Don. passes unanimously.

We discussed the MOU for the Conservation Commission with Nick Fleck. (The Stewardship Committee has no authority but advises Conservation Commission about stewardship issues.) The Stewardship Committee met with Lis and Doug Harris (via Skype) and talked about making an MOU for the Conservation Commission. Nick wrote a paragraph supporting the Historical Commission and working with NHC; e.g. the forestry lumbering. Joe, Lis, and Doug like what Nick wrote as it increases our working together. Next step, wait until NHC is done with our MOU; then the Stewardship Committee would make a recommendation to the Conservation Commission.

Carol suggests that the Archaeology Policy, approved by Select Board in 2014, represents existing approval. Nick suggests we make the same kind of statement for all historic resources, e.g. stone walls etc. Nick will take the MOU and the Archaeology Policy to the next Stewardship Committee meeting. **Motion:** Lis: NHC supports Nick's bringing the MOU before the Stewardship Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission; **second:** Carol. Discussion: none; vote unanimously passed.

Thank you, Nick, for your work on this potential prototype.

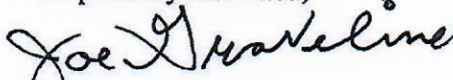
Unforeseen items and announcements

- Thanks to Joan for the December newsletter piece. Sue's turn next time. Sue will also be writing for the Historical Society who will also be submitting regularly.
- Thursday: Tuners Falls High School meeting re: The Battlefield Grant
- Dublin Seminar this year is on religious meeting houses; Betty Congdon presented there on Calvin Swan. Proposals due in February. Very cool conference.
- Joan: NATABA has been invited to speak with the Agricultural Commission tomorrow night.
- NHC needs to think ahead to June, Day of History could be folded in to NATABA plans. Maybe invite the Tribes.
- Stacy Bond is new to town and interested in history. NHC will invite her to a meeting.
- Electronic Signatures useful to submit some documents to Town Clerk. Lis, Carol
- April 7, 2018: State of Our Town Dinner; Carol and Joe plan to attend.

Next Meeting December 11, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment: motion: Sue; **second:** Don; discussion: none; passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Graveline
Secretary

December 11, 2017