

NORTHFIELD HISTORIC COMMISSION

meeting at TOWN HALL

69 Main St.

Northfield, MA 01360

Monday, January 8, 2018, at 4:00 PM

Present: Carol Lebo, Lisa McLoughlin, Joe Graveline, Joan Stoia, Sue Ross, Don Campbell

Absent: Bob Hall

Visitors: Betty Gibson; Mike LaRue; Mary Bowen from UU church

Call to Order: Carol Lebo, Chair: 4:02pm

Minutes of Previous Meeting: 12/11/17: Motion to approve: Joan Second: Joe Discussion: none; Motion passes unanimously

Mail

- Steve Seredynski is planning to request from CPC a proposal to put wires on South side of Town Hall underground to restore building to 1920's appearance. He needs some old photos of the Town Hall showing the building before electrical wires were attached. Sue will look for some photos for him.
- Thanks to Joan, Don, and Sue for re-upping; we value you and thank you!
- The Board of Selectman has voted to open the town meeting warrant on January 1st for receipt of warrant articles no later than Tuesday, February 27 at noon.
Zoning Board of Appeals: no meeting since Dec 7. Meeting scheduled for January 10: a public hearing at 7:00pm on the application by Community Bible Church for a special permit change of use at 781 Millers Falls Rd. Discussion followed; Joe will talk to Willie about our concerns.

Old Business - updates

- MOU - Tribal Historic Preservation of Ceremonial Stone Landscapes: copy of our draft. It is time for Willy to move this forward to our Select Board; it has been edited several times. Carol will talk to Willie about the MOU and present it to him. When it's ready, members of the NHC will attend and be ready with a suggested change if needed. Joe: **motion** that we've read and edited it and we want to submit to Willie to move forward. Carol **seconds**. No discussion. Passes unanimously.
- 24 Main Street: nothing new
- Kocut Bill: Joe has kept an eye on it; still active, reviewed favorably. Waiting for referral out of committee.
- Bylaw: Belchertown has a good one with both an Historic Commission and a Historic Bylaw Commission.; Joan will research it. Carol: if Joan finds meaningful material, we will meet again to discuss on January 22, 4:00pm at Town Hall. Carol will post.
- In response to discussion about the need for a Visitor Center Bruce Wooster asked NHC if space in the First Church UUB building might be utilized. UU Board Members Betty Gibson, Mike LaRue, and Mary Bowen joined the meeting. Discussion of need for street visibility, signage, space to display literature, bathroom facilities, media accessibility, meeting /presentation space to bring classes to the Visitor Center for example, all within ADA compliance. Looking for empty space to post story of Northfield around the room; have chairs set up in the middle for presentations on Northfield.

Anticipating development of Schell Bridge attracting more visitors to the town, there is a practical concern that businesses on Main Street might get swamped with people needing a bathroom. Need for people who can professionally tell the story of Northfield and what there is to do here. Local support and grants for rent support. The scope of this project seems bigger than the UU Church folks would want to assume, but NHC is glad for this opportunity to begin to spread the vision and enlist other community members. The UU Board Members are excited excited and want to help.

- CPA for Boy Scout House sign: Joan requested price for 12x18 plaque from Greenfield vendor. Request will be completed and submitted by January 16 deadline.
- Signage: Indigenous/Colonial History: we need a committee to work on this. Not urgent.
- NATABA Planning: nothing new

Current Business

- MHC Preservation Projects Fund: 2018 categories for grants MPPF. Workshop this Thursday in Williamsburg. Deadline March 23. Do we have a project in mind for a matching grant? And the match? Carol will go to the workshop. Do we want to apply? Sue may go too. The cemetery refurbishment is the big project. Also, oral history on where the Native American stuff has been found.
- Mitchell Property: would King Phillip's hill be destroyed? He's blocked access to the trail where it crosses his property. We have a good file on the history of this hill. The Tribes would want to be involved. Also, the NPS Battlefield grant wants to be involved; Mary Rowlandson was there etc. Stewardship and us as partners? Army corps---within the river area; state permitting for the gravel operation; Conservation Commission.

Citizen Input

Unforeseen items and announcements

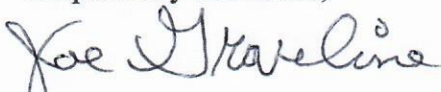
- Native American Day
- Certified Local Government
- Shelby Ashline. Greenfield Recorder reporter called Carol and then Sue about raising money for bench for Marie Ferre; they also discussed our long-range plan for Center Cemetery refurbishment.

Next Meeting February 12, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in Northfield Town Hall

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Joe **second**: Don no discussion. passed unanimously
adjourned at 6:01pm

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Graveline
Secretary

January 22, 2018