

NORTHFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

69 Main Street, Northfield, MA

Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 9, 2018, 3:00 PM

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

Absent: Bob Hall

Call to Order by Carol Lebo, Chair, at 3:05pm

Minutes of Previous Meeting: **Motion** to accept: Joe Graveline, Sue **Second. Unanimous approval**

Mail: None.

Citizen Input: None.

Old Business and Updates

June 23 Day of History—Members reported that, despite the cold and rain, the event was a huge success, with highly professional and knowledgeable speakers and just the right number of participants to make the program interactive. Participants were drawn from a variety of interests—some were foragers, one woman was herself a Mashpee who now lives in Northfield, and still others were interested in the cultural or local food aspects or both. Joe Graveline commented that the event “expanded the average person’s enjoyment of the types of food and cooking methods presented.”

July 21 Day of History—Joe will contact David Brule to confirm his participation. Due to the scheduling conflicts that four of the members have earlier that day, Joe and Lisa will open the program, with Joe bringing a welcome table and chairs, along with the set-up materials that Carol will provide to him in advance. The program will be funded entirely by the Commission as two of the speakers have declined honoraria. Sue and Joan will explore providing a local mug to each, depending upon the cost. Members reviewed the program text and made suggestions.

First Light and FERC—NHC has not received a response to our June 29 letter supporting FERC’s insistence that full archeological study be done of the river bank in connection with the re-licensing process. However, on June 20, 2018, First Light wrote another letter to FERC on the subject, requesting a modification of that requirement and suggesting that the Massachusetts Historical Preservation Commission may have allowed a modification vis a vis the portions of the riverbank within our state—see June 20, 2018 letter, par. 4, lines 7-9 using the link to the document in question at the end of these Minutes. Members suggested that the NHC respond to First Light’s letter in a letter to FERC as follows:

Motion by Carol Lebo, Chair: “That the Northfield Historical Commission write a short letter addressing the letter from First Light to Kimberly Bose of FERC on June 20, 2018, based on Northfield’s sovereignty in this matter due to its historic relationship to the river (commerce, agriculture, recreation), and the NHC’s current Archeological Accountability Policy enclosed. Copies of the letter should be sent to First Light, the MHC and Frank Winchell at FERC.” **Second.** Joe Graveline. **Adopted unanimously.** It was agreed that the members will seek clarification on what exactly the MHCP communicated to First Light and reconvene on Monday July 16, 2018 to further discuss the matter.

Continuing Business:

Fire House Plaque and Ceremony—Members proposed a date—October 13, 2018—for the event and developed a list of stakeholders in a ceremony honoring past firefighting efforts in Northfield. They include: Steve Seredynski, Skip Dunnell, Lois Stearns, and David Quinn. They, with Carol, could constitute a kind of advisory or honorary committee for the event. Tasks and responsibilities discussed were: Carol will call the group and invite them to an August meeting; Joan will write up the event for the Newsletter, and Sue wants to do some research into buildings that are no longer here due to fire. The advisory group will commit to bringing the antique fire equipment, to turning out firefighters, and getting firefighters who like to cook involved in a chili cook-off following the installation.

New Business:

Task Plan to 12/30/18 Topics covered in the Task Plan include:

Day of History:

Tasks were assigned. Northfield Newsletter: Carol has submitted an article for the next issue.

Scout House Plaque—covered above.

FERC and First Light—covered above.

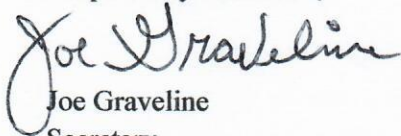
Bylaw Rewrite—The sense of the meeting was agreed that we should move this item to September when we would begin the process and address the Town Counsel's marginal notes on the last Bylaw submission,

that the NHC does not have jurisdiction over lands and buildings outside an Historic District.

Need for clerical assistance—It was suggested that we put money for an assistant into the next budget request.

Adjourned: 4:57 p.m. **Motion:** Sue **Second:** Don **unanimously approved**

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Graveline

Secretary

September 10, 2018