

Northfield Historical Commission

Senior Pavilion

Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 1:00

Minutes

Call to order 1:00 by Carol Lebo

Present Stacy Bond, Don Campbell, Lis McLoughlin, Joan Stoia, Bee Jacque, Joe Graveline, Carol Lebo, Mary King, and guest Mary Mayshark-Stavelly

Minutes of June 2020 meeting were postponed until the August meeting.

Mail

Citizen input none

Old Business and Updates

Schell Bridge: Waiting for MassDOT to schedule a public hearing for 25% design, expected late summer/early fall. Schell Bridge Advisory Committee is meeting with the Town Administrator for an update on Right of Way work and estimates.

2023 Celebration nothing new

Battlefield Board: Council Fires Research Joe reported that the Board is confident of part 3 of the grant this fall; Suzanne Lemonteau is promoting creation of a self-guided walking tour of tribal sites but Nipmunks are balking; and Nolumbeka and Connecticut River Conservancy will sponsor Paddle to Recover Indigenous Voices, a tribal kayak event, on Aug. 1 at the Gill public boat ramp.

Authors and Artists Lis was pleased with the attendance at the online events and following, via youtube (almost 300 live views, over 420 views of videos). There will be another event in 2021, with ways to promote Northfield as a town and a destination. It will be online again. NHC members expressed happiness and pride in being sponsors and audience for such a great event. Thanks Lis!

Continuing Business

Dam relicensing: letter from FERC to CT River Atlantic Salmon Comm. not relevant to us. Communication from FirstLight remains inadequate.

Sensitivity map: Joe viewed sites by kayak and will map them from the river moving inland--- native, colonial, Swan etc.

Resolution for Town Meeting: it passed successfully. Follow up with Selectboard is essential because their action is needed. NHC will compose the letter to FERC for Selectboard to sign, emphasizing that Northfield people on both sides of the Connecticut River want First Light and all future owners to take actions to prevent and minimize future riverbank damage.

NHC going forward: Carol is leaving the NHC board and moving away from Northfield. At the August meeting the Commission will reorganize, electing officers and discussing new and alternate members. We thanked Carol for her excellent leadership over the years, and we will miss her personally as well. We got a great deal of work accomplished during her tenure. We gave Carol flowers, enjoyed cake pops, and took a group photo.

New Business

Calvin Swan home: Bee and Mary toured the homestead site with JoAnne McGee and Andrew Vernon of the Conservation Commission. Signage and drainage issues that affect the trail are being addressed with a Community Preservation Committee grant. Lis spoke of our role in ensuring that any preservation efforts do not affect the historical integrity of the site, and of a village that formerly existed on the hill which included the church that Swan attended. The cellar holes of this village are on private land.

Next meeting: August 11, 1:00 p.m., Senior Pavilion

Adjournment: 2:40 M: Joe, S: Mary

Respectfully,


Mary King

NHC Secretary