

LYNDEBOROUGH HERITAGE COMMISSION

Friday, Feb. 26, 2021, J.A. Tarbell Library

Present: Stephanie Roper, Jessie Salisbury, Bob Howe, Bob Rogers. Lou Rota, Selectman Mark Chamberlain

Stephanie opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.,

SHOW AND TELL

The Historical Society received a collection of pictures from Dick Putnam that were owned by Norma Walker. Members looked through them and found old friends and memories. A picture of Norma and Trish Schultz will be added to the town archives. Jessie also presented a brief history of the town pound, "for the impounding of livestock in lieu of taxes," to be added to the record and correct misinformation on social media.

The minutes of Feb. 5, 2020, were accepted on a motion by Bob Rogers seconded by Mark. The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$4187.69

PROPOSED ROOF AT CITIZEN'S HALL

Mark said Wally Holt has proposed constructing a roof over the basement entrance under the hall. He presented a preliminary sketch plan that would match the front of the hall at a cost of about \$1,700. The entrance is adversely affected by weather.

Mark said the Select Board had discussed the idea. There is currently money in the hall maintenance budget, but they decided to postpone the project until later to be sure.

Members approved of the idea as long as it "was in keeping with the style and character of the building," which is on the Historic Register.

SALE OF THE CENTER CHURCH

Stephanie said the Historical Society has received the required letter from the church concerning the vote of members to sell the building, although it did not record the vote as some had wanted. The solicitation for funds letter will go out this weekend in a bulk mailing. The asking price is \$156,000, which is less than the appraised valuation.

It was noted that an article in the Ledger-Transcript about a discussion of the sale at a recent Selectmen's meeting contained errors. The Milford Cabinet did not run a similar article which Jessie submitted to them.

Mark said he had received a call from Wally Holt who was "very concerned with the legality of the sale," and had explained the deed restriction clause to him. That misinterpretation appears to be common.

VILLAGE CHURCH PEWS

Stephanie said one pew will be given to the Historical Society. It will be picked up when the weather is right.

LEE MAYHEW MEMORIAL

Still on hold. Mark said the Selectmen had not discussed it. Members still favor Memorial Day for the dedication.

CEMETERY SIGNS

Signs for Johnson's Corner and Perham Corner have been ordered.

It was decided to do North and Whittemore cemeteries this year.

Bob Rogers mentioned the extensive vandalism to the Whittemore Cemetery done some years ago, including theft of urns.

Also discussed was a sign for the exterior of the Town Hall with the history of Pinnacle Grange. It would be placed on the right side of the entrance to match the maple tree sign on left. The Pinnacle Grange sign is to be returned to the front of the hall this summer.

TOWN HISTORY UPDATE

Jessie and Stephanie plan to complete the first draft this summer and decide on pictures. The final chapter of the Center Church is on hold.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bob Howe asked about soapstone mining along French Road where there are a number of pits. Soapstone is not mentioned in the 1905 history but such mining could be connected to the large operations in Francetown. It will be looked into.

Letters were received from 4th grade teacher Sandy Reid and Wilton Heritage Commission Member Deb Mortvedt concerning this year's town history video project. Jessie and Stephanie listed possible subjects: the Lafayette Artillery, glass factory, Pinnacle House, the "town corners."

It will be followed up on.

The next meeting was set for Friday, March 26, 2021, 7 p.m., at the library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Clerk