LYNDEBOROUGH HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 2, 2023, Center Hall.

Members present: Stephanie Roper, Lou Rota, Robert Howe, Robert Rogers, Jessie Salisbury, Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Stephanie called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

SHOW AND TELL

Stephanie had an advance copy of “A History of Lyndeborough.”

Lou had a King William coin from the 1700s, found by a metal detector in his back yard.

Jessie had a copy of a picture of the Center School, given by Tom Schultz. It is a little different from those we have.

The Minutes of April 28 were approved on a motion by Bob Howe, seconded by Bob Rogers.

The Treasurer’s report shows a balance on May 31 of $5,787.61

There were three intent-to-cut forms: Gauthier on Center Road; vanHam on French Road; Franko on Cram Hill Road.

STONE ARCH BRIDGES

The bridges were inspected by Michael Weitzner of Thistlestone Works on May 22. He was accompanied by Leo Trudeau. A preliminary assessment is that the larger arch is good while the smaller one is “bulging” on one side. A complete report is expected before the end of June.

Stephanie has suggested wording for the historic marker to be placed at the site.

THE TOWN CHARTER

After finding the tube in which it was originally stored, a search was started for the charter which the Historical Society had properly framed in the late 1970s. Until the renovations of Citizens’ Hall, it had hung in the town offices. Trish is “pretty sure” it is behind the filing cabinets in her office and will look there when she has help cleaning the closet.

Walter Holland brought the town office a framed copy of the wording which will be hung upstairs.

It was agreed that when found the charter should be reframed using modern preservation materials and a museum quality copy made for display.

WELCOME TO LYNDEBOROUGH SIGNS

Jessie has corresponded with Stadium Graphics concerning two signs for The Turnpike, making the marker for the arches once the wording was agreed on, and perhaps three house signs. She will contact them again.

4TH GRADE HISTORY TOUR

The annual tour is set for Thursday, June 8, beginning at 8:15 at Center Hall. Bob Howe will handle the Town Pound presentation; Jessie will be at Center Hall and Stephanie at Citizens’ Hall. There has been no confirmation from Walter.

TRUCK DAY

The Commission and the Historical Society will co-sponsor a Touch-a-Truck Day at Center Hall on Saturday, June 10. The Road Agent, the Fire Chief and the Ambulance Director have agreed to participate. Lou will bring a farm tractor and other equipment as well.

Jessie will publicize the event, posters will be made and distributed, and the elementary school notified.

The Artillery was invited to take part, display and discuss the cannon, and provide lunch as a fund-raiser but there has been no confirmation.

COMMON AND MEMORIAL DAY

Stephanie, Lorraine and Lorrie did the flowers as usual. The town road crew mowed and trimmed and the Common (and the cemeteries) look great.

Bob Rogers said the North Cemetery was cleaned – and many little pine trees removed – by a Mormon Youth Group. They are to receive a thank you from the town.

WORK ON THE TOWN HALL

Repairs to the floor and sill are complete. The next step is to prepare a report and plan for the extension on the back. The work could qualify for a grant.

TOWN HISTORY

It is DONE! Finally, after about seven years. It is hard-cover, maroon-colored, with a picture of the Center which shows the horse sheds. It will now be advertised for sale. An advance copy will be available at the library for inspection and to take orders. Cost is $40. It will also be on display on Truck Day. Stephanie will make an initial order for 200 copies. Since it is print-on-demand, more can be ordered at any time.

GIS PROJECT

Mark said no one will be available at NRPC until July.

Stephanie said she and Scott are planning a field trip for a conference next fall, 2024, and will include Lyndeborough.

CHURCH SALE

The Historical Society needs to raise about another $71,000. Stephanie will begin looking into grants other than LCHIP, for which the project is not eligible.

Another $500 was donated in memory of Clayton Brown, following his memorial service, for a total of about $14,000.

Another yard sale will be held in October.

The next meeting was set for Friday, June 30, 7 p.m., at Center Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Secretary

ADDENDUM

Proposed wording for the historic marker:

Stone Arch Bridges

These bridges, built in 1873, represent a very rare example of double stone arch bridge construction in which the arches are not the same size. They replaced an earlier bridge downstream from about 50 years earlier that served a fulling mill owned by Joshua Sargent, a Revolutionary War hero. Alvaro Buttrick privately built these bridges for his mill and dam because the railroad was being built nearby. Buttrick asked the town to take over the bridges, but townspeople only accepted them in 1893. The bridges served the town well for over a century, only being replaced with the current bridge in 2005.