

Minutes (Draft) of Richmond Heritage Commission Meeting  
1/25/17, Vets Hall, 3:30pm

Present: Carol Jameson, Chair; Bonnie McCarthy, Treasurer; Bob Weekes, Sec'y; Sandy Laughner; Susan Roney. Absent: Hank Hallas (Alternate)

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Bonnie McCarthy gave the Treasurer's Report. Ongoing repairs to the Telephone Building are being paid out of funds on hand. Future repairs (e.g., flooring) to finish restoring the building will depend on town appropriation and additional private fundraising by the Heritage Commission. If successful in that endeavor, Heritage Commission volunteers will paint the building inside and out and also handle tree cutting and some site work immediately surrounding the building. Additionally, Carol will check with the BOS to see if the town's intention to pay for demolishing the telephone building, instead of having the Heritage Commission restore it, can be applied to our out of pocket expenses.

Carol Jameson reported that the Rhode Island Quakers have agreed to transfer the title to the Quaker Cemetery to the Town of Richmond. Carol will explore collaboration between the Heritage Commission and the Quakers on appropriate signage identifying the site.

The easement prepared for the planned vest pocket park on the former town common at the 4 Corners ("Brewer Park") has been delivered to the homeowners for signature. The Heritage Commission is considering whether the park requires edging: either a wooden border (and whether that border would be constructed from used railroad ties given to the town or new pressure treated 6" x 6"s) or simply grass and mulch.

Bob Weekes reported on communications with the town on RHC activities. The article on the Tramp House which appeared in the Nov. 25, 2016 issue of the Keene Sentinel will be reprinted in the February 2017 issue of the Richmond Rooster. Bob has also sent the summary of Heritage Commission activities during 2016, together with a photo of the Library with its new belfry, original school bell and shutters, to Heidi for inclusion in this year's town report. Additional photos of Richmond and its historical signage have also been sent to Heidi for possible inclusion in the town report.

Elements of the longer term "Town Green" project were discussed. Carol reported that the BOS is preparing a warrant article addressing costs for expanding the Vets Hall parking lot. Plans for stumping and removing rocks from the Phase I area in 2017 are being handled by the town. The Heritage Commission would like to start work on improving the site of the Memorial Park as a prelude to installing a new monument honoring Richmond's Civil War veterans. Carol will explore if we can collaborate with the town when its site work begins. In particular, some backfill will be needed for the Memorial Park area and the RHC is in favor of surrounding that

park with stone walls using rocks that are going to be cleared from the surrounding area anyway.

Susi Roney and Sandy Laughner reported that the Winchendon Historical Society has expressed interest in the Martin Mill artifacts but asked to see photographs and dimensions of the machinery being stored in Richmond. Bob will provide Sandy with same for transmission to Winchendon. Bob also advised members of an upcoming meeting of the Round Table of the Historical Society of Cheshire County dealing with accession of archival artifacts.

Bob then briefed members on estimates for restoring the Richmond Town Pound. Carol will discuss possible collaboration on this project with the Richmond Historical Society. A special invitation to attend our next meeting will be tendered to both Jerry Mills and John Lewis

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Weekes, Secretary