

## West Newbury

### Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

**Meeting date & place:** 7:00 pm, January 24, 2019, 1910 Building

**Members Present:** Chairman Bob Janes; Dot Cavanaugh; Jennifer Conway; Paul Knezek; Elisa Grammer.

#### Historic Inventory

##### Phase 1

Ms. Conway reported that the Commission can do the application for a Historic Area on the National Register of Historic Places. Homeowners can petition against this, however. It was agreed that it would be very important to work with homeowners before taking any action. Additionally, the Commission would need to make a recommendation about this to the Selectmen for their consideration. *The Commission determined to look into this further at the next meeting.*

Chairman Janes stated that the State did send a check for \$12,500 pursuant to the grant for the Historic Sites Survey.

##### Phase 2

Chairman Janes shared a list of properties for the next phase of the Historic Sites Survey. Essentially these are located north of Main Street, with other locations such as Crane Neck Street included as well. It was suggested that properties known to be in danger of teardown should be included so that at least we would have a record of them.

The Commission reviewed Ms. Conway's draft grant application for Phase 2. It must be received by the Massachusetts Historical Commission no later than 5 p.m. on February 11. *The Commission voted 5-0-0 to approve this draft application as revised.* Ms. Conway committed to put a finalized version in the Historical Commission mailbox in town offices by Monday afternoon.

The question arose whether the Town needs to commit its funding for this prior to or at some other time relative to submission of the grant application.

*Chairman Janes agreed to find out how and when the Town's funding commitment must be made in relation to this grant application.*

#### Historic Markers

Ms. Grammer reported that 9 of the Town's 11 historical markers are generally in good shape, though in need of cleaning and brush clearing in some cases. The marker about Jacob Bayley on Bailey's lane is missing, though the post remains. The marker concerning the Quaker meeting house on Turkey Hill Road is seriously decayed and rotting. *Ms. Grammer will inquire at Haverhill Signs, which made the most recent version of markers that were installed in 2004.*

*The Commission voted unanimously to approve a monthly “minute history,” with a news blurb & email blast from the town website, starting with the story behind the marker for Elizabeth & Enoch Little. The Commission also agreed to expand the monthly stories beyond markers, with Mr. Janes proposing to do a story on early baseball teams in West Newbury.*

### **Minutes**

*The Commission voted 5-0-0 to approve minutes of January 10, 2019.*

### **Next meeting**

February 20, 2019

### **Adjourn**

The Commission adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

### **Meeting Documents**

- List of sites to be surveyed
- Draft grant application
- Chart for historical markers
- Drafts of minute histories—tales of our town

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa Grammer