Francestown, NH Heritage Commission Meeting Sept 23, 2018 1:00 PM

Attendees: Members:	Ruth Behrsing, Barbara Caskie, BJ Carbee
Alternates:	Pat Krueger
Excused:	Brad Howell, Elly Miles
Others	Scott Carbee, Peter Jones

- 1. Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm at the Town Hall parking lot where we met and then headed to 920 Poor Farm Road to inspect the sheep underpass.
- 2. Sheep Underpass on Poor Farm road
 - a. Eby owns both sides of the underpass and he is very interested in preserving the history
 - b. There were two very large sheep farms in Francestown in this area, HIllside and the current Houghton farm. Their sheep would use the underpass to get to the water. Sheep did well in Francestown as wool is light and easy to transport to the Manchester Mills.
 - c. You can see through the underpass and further down the down-hill-side, you will see the "channels" that kept the sheep on track as they followed the Bellwether, the old dame with a bell around her neck.
 - d. This is our first look but future options could be to put an article about them in the Francestown News, have a community cleanup, make a kiosk or some way to show where it is.
 - e. Information about when they were made may be on original deed.
- 3. Sheep Underpass on Second NH Turnpike South.
 - a. This underpass is past Cemetery 3 (assuming you are leaving from the center of town), about 100 yards, on the right/left sides. It is near Old Memory Lane on the right.
 - b. This one has become a culvert as there is a plastic culvert pipe in the underpass.
 - c. You can see where the stone wall on the right funnel into the underpass.
 - d. This was supposedly used for cattle as well. The NH Turnpike used to charge tolls and the farmers were asked to pay a toll as their cattle used the highway to cross to the other side. To avoid tolls they dug an underpass for their cattle and sheep.
- 4. Date for next Regular Oct 13, 2018 9:00 AM
- 5. Adjourn 1:46 PM

Pictures on next page

Left side coming from the south on Poor Farm Road



Right side on Poor Farm Road



Another shot of right side PFR



Left side coming from town on Second New Hampshire Turnpike South.



Right side on 2nd NHT S



View of stonewalls leading into underpass. 2nd NHT S. Can't really see stone walls but you can see the marker for where it is

