HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISION

June 21, 2019, Center Hall Annual Meeting

Present: Stephanie Roper, Bob Rogers, Julie Zebuhr, Jessie Salisbury, Selectman Mark Chamberlain, former member Scott Roper

Stephanie opened the meeting at 7 p.m.

FORMER TOWN BARN ROOF REPAIRS

Mark said roof leaks have caused water damage and mold on the inside. The building is to be cleared, all the wall board and insulation pulled, and taken to the Recycling Center. Walter Holland is to arrange for a tarp for the roof and to have the work done by volunteers. Artillery equipment is to be removed to safe storage at the Town Barn. Building Inspector Leo Trudeau will inspect the underside of the roof and the general construction before any work is done. John Hyde, Jr., has a contract to replace the roof.

The original completion date of July 1 has been changed to mid-August.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SUBSTATION

Mark said the Safety Complex and Other Options Committee walked the area in the field behind the former town barn. The proposed building would not be readily visible from Center Road. Fire Chief Brian Smith has not been in agreement, but appears to be changing his mind. Smith has said he is concerned about the slope to the proposed site and suggested that the station replace the old barn, to which all present said 'no.'

ACCESS TO THE SUBSTATION ACROSS DISTRICT LAND

Mark said the access would have to be "worked out." Scott had copies of maps from 1858 and a 1793 map of Center, Herrick and Pinnacle Roads. He said there are two existing roads: Stonebridge, the original road to South Lyndeborough, and another along the stonewall next to the orchard.

COLLAPSED STONE WALL

A small section of the rear stone wall near the Town Pound collapsed during the past week, apparently from natural causes, but has been repaired by the Highway Department. Thanks were extended to them.

HALL FLOWER GARDENS

The gardens around the flagpole, in front of and beside the Town Hall were planted many years ago by the Garden Club. Since that group disbanded some years ago care of the gardens – mainly iris and daylilies - had been haphazard and they now require some work. The ledge at the base of the Pound also needs clearing. Stephanie cut the trees growing in the gardens, but the many blackberry vines have not been removed. It was suggested that volunteer gardeners be sought through the newspaper and the town website.

The grounds are mown and maintained by the Highway Department.

HORSESHOE PITS

Mark said the selectmen had received a letter from a resident asking to install horseshoe pits for Community Day in August. They were to provide more information but have not yet done so. The members said they would need to know where they would be placed, how many (at least four would be required for a tournament), would they be permanent, and who would maintain them? The suggestion was put on hold until more information is received. Any activity in the District would be non-alcoholic.

OTHER

Mark discussed briefly new legislation regarding land use board appeals. Word was received that David Wheeler of Milford is involved in the interior decoration of the new courthouse in Milford and is seeking "something from each town the court serves." Mark will look into it.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.