

NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 18, 2012

Present: Norm Corbin, Marie Nieber, Stephen Anderson, Debra Comeau, and Stephanie Stockman

Guests: Craig Schofield

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:10PM.

Brigham Street Cemetery

- An email was sent to John Coderre requesting that a no dumping sign be placed at the cemetery, to deter people from dumping their yard waste.
- It has been reported to the NHC that there is more than yard waste being dumped in the cemetery. Recently there has been an old swing set dumped on the property. Norm will follow up with John Coderre.
- Craig Schofield's property abuts the cemetery and he discussed his concerns about the dumping into the cemetery. He mentioned that for 10 years the Parks Department had kept up with maintenance of the cemetery. Also he mentioned that many of the Hemlock trees are infected with Hemlock woolly adelgids, a type of tree bug.
- New information has been found that there is an historic road on the western edge of the cemetery.

CPA Proposal Updates:

Priority Ranking on Historical Requests

- A. NHC request for \$100,000.00 for Preservation Reserve Fund
- B. NHC request for \$5,000.00 for gravestone preservation
 - Preserves the town and meets our obligation to our Founders.
- C. NHS request for \$8,000.00 for organ
 - NHC wrote letter of support and the cost will be shared
- D. Town of Northborough request for \$350,000.00 for Town Hall heating system
 - Norm to submit a letter with comments to John Coderre regarding CPA funding.

National Register "Opinion on Eligibility" Status

- Library – There was a response from the MHC stating that the library was not eligible for the National Register.
- Mary Goodenow Gravesite – The MHC requested more information.
- Baptist Church – A letter will be sent out.
- Old Howard St. Burial Grounds – No new information

Northborough History Video Project – Update

- Information is being gathered on the topic of "Service to Country."

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made by Debra Comeau and seconded by Marie Nieber to accept the minutes of December 14, 2011. The motion was accepted unanimously.

New Business

- The homeowners of the old school on Church St. received a letter from the MHC requesting more information regarding the property's eligibility to the National Historic Register.
- Beth Finch McCarthy received a grant in conjunction with the NHC. She will be presenting a genealogy workshop for Northborough residents within the next year.
- Information has been found in the NHC files about a possible Native American trail on Rock Hill.
- The historic area sign on Whitney Street is missing. Marie Nieber will file a police report.
- Stephanie Stockman will begin checking the NHC website for email correspondence.
- Norm sent out the requested information to the cell tower company.
- The letters about the dam work were forwarded to the town engineer.
- A draft of the NHC annual report is in process.
- NHC by-laws
 - Stephen Anderson made a motion to propose a warrant item to amend Chapter 2-36 (a.)(ii).(.) to delete everything after the word places. Marie Nieber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- The NHC will not renew their membership with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC).

Marie Nieber made the motion and Norm Corbin seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman
NHC Committee Member