

Pelham Historical Commission Meeting
June 17, 2014

Present: Joe Larson, Karl Martini, Daniel Robb

Meeting started at 7:30 pm.
History Room, Pelham Library

Minutes – Martini May minutes (postponed)

Treasurer's Report – Thompson (none)

Old Business

1. **Meetinghouse Road Bridges –**
Joe got a mailing from the State DPW containing an updated design for the bridges (about 75% design stage). The proposed work will not happen this year, but next year. We now got very detailed maps of each proposed bridge. We are still getting what we ask for in terms of the preservation of the historic abutments. They have compiled an enormous amount of information on the (engineering) history of the bridges. We do not need to do anything. But as there is federal money involved, there is a required historical review.
2. **Cemetery CPA project**
Buzzy has most of the tree work done. Had some of the metal work done to some of the fences of the cemeteries (gates up on the hill) similar work might still be needed at other places. Stone work hasn't started yet. Bids will be coming soon. Buzzy learns about the paper work.
3. **Museum CPA project –**
Still some money left in it. Rick is in the moment too busy with the highway projects. Work will start when he has more time.
4. **Status of Inventory project –report on Phase IV.**
Pictures for phase V are missing in the moment (misplaced). Joe is retaking some of the pictures.
5. **Alternate Members on Historical Commissions**
need to have the town bylaws changed (Karen Smith will be back in town starting July, she was on the commission 10 year ago might consider to come back on)
6. **Wooden Dam Amethyst Brook**
We will have a meeting with Alex in July as they didn't finish their next report for this meeting. They used Bigelow's book and think that the dam is quite old and of an unusual construction; thus the archeological survey of it.

New Business

1. **The emergency repairs** to the historic outlet from the Bray farm pond. Sink holes started to form at the outlet of the pond along the path of the old culvert. Rick got concerned that the road might be unsafe. The culvert from the dam to the road and partway under the road was very old with stonework at side and flat stones at top. Army Corp of Engineers got involved, but Dana declared emergency and the work got done in a day.

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2. **Cleanup around town hall / museum.** Small clean-up effort, just cleaning the plantings around the Museum. Should convert it all to grass in the long run as the number of volunteers to do the work is down to just two.
3. **Water Pipe burst** in bath room at town complex. Must not have been totally empty when they closed it for the winter. Was found leaking when water was turned on again. Plummer was called and it is repaired now.
4. **We need still to buy the filing cabinet.** As discussed and voted before.
5. **Reappointment letters** of commission members need to be send to the selectmen.
6. **We need to address the need to translate the old electronic media to modern ones.** Next year buy hard drives to convert and maybe print a copy on archival paper, as some of the media are becoming so obsolete that it will be soon impossible to retrieve the information they store.
7. **Native American Sites** might exist in town. Dan gave an overview of projects run by some concerned people in other towns. If this proves to be correct it can give us leverage to stop development in some places. Book "Manetoo" contains many examples. Dan will follow up on this in the future.

Monthly Updates

Historic Complex – Robb

Community Hall – Robb

Historical Society – Bigelow- Museum opening, work day

Next Meeting: 07/15/14 (third Tuesday) at 7:30pm History Room, Pelham Library

Adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, KM