

LANCASTER HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 14, 2018

A meeting of the Lancaster Historical Commission (LHC) was held on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the Trustees Room at the Thayer Memorial Library (TML).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Heather Lennon, Marcia Jakubowicz, Jay Moody, Amy Brown, and Karen Silverthorn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Sczerzen, Joan Richards, Mark Schryver, and Jean Watson

CALL TO ORDER:

Heather Lennon called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from April 30, 2018 were read. Jay Moody moved that they be approved as corrected. Marcia Jakubowicz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The minutes will be sent to the Town Clerk for posting.

PRESCOTT BUILDING (PB):

Boxes of LHC items are currently being re-arranged and organized. The work is progressing steadily.

Lancaster resident and wood-worker Richard Belanger has been volunteering his time and skill to the repair of the antiques in the LHC's collection and office spaces that require professional attention.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR MEMORIAL:

Plans to install the marker will be followed up after several of the hazardous trees have been removed.

HISTORIC CEMETERY CLEAN-UP:

- A. HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL* - Plans are being made to cut down several hazardous trees in the Middle Cemetery. More than \$10,000.00 worth of tree removal work needs to be done as damage is being done to the grave markers.

- B. PROJECT FOOTSTONE* - Marcia Jakubowicz and Ashley Driscoll have begun the process of matching footstones that have gotten separated from their headstones in the Middle Cemetery. Approximately 56 footstones had been dislodged from their proper positions. Marcia and Ashley have begun setting the footstones against trees and putting them in alphabetical order. Once they

determine accurate matches, each footstone will be placed directly against the back of its correct headstone.

Marcia further reported that a crew of prisoners have cleaned up the Middle Cemetery and that they did a good job.

Marcia and Ashley will try to make the gravestones readable. Marcia has also been researching safe and effective methods for cleaning and preservation to avoid further deterioration.

TOWN CLOCK:

No report was given. Marca Jakubowitz reported that clock-winder John Spencer fell and broke some ribs. He is in rehabilitation at the River Terrace Nursing Home in North Lancaster.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS:

No report given.

NEW EXHIBIT ROOM:

The first exhibit planned will feature the "Life and Times of Lancaster's Herbert Hosmer" including many of his dollhouses, puppets, portraits, and props. The work of restoring the dollhouses is delicate and the display will take several months to properly prepare.

NATIONALLY REGISTERED ATHERTON & PONAKIN BRIDGES:

No report given.

CORRESPONDENCE, ACCESSIONS:

No report given.

NEWS:

LHC member Amy Brown is now employed as an interpreter at Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, MA.

ADJOURNMENT AND FUTURE MEETING DATE:

Karen Silverthorn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. It was seconded by Jay Moody, a vote was called for, and it carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the LHC will be on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Dexter Room at the Thayer Memorial Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Silverthorn, Recorder for the Meeting