

BRANDON HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

April 8, 2025

PRESENT: Dennis Reisenweaver, Vicki Disorda, Shirley Markland

ABSENT: Frank Bump, John Peterson

ALSO PRESENT: Jack Schneider

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm. Zoom was working.

Approved minutes from meeting of January 14, 2025, 3-0

Approved agenda for meeting, 3-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Membership and term limits: Awaiting info from Seth Hopkins, Town Manager. Those present agree with 3 year terms, staggered once they all begin.

Historical preservation scoping project—Vicki will be researching the Town Farm and talking with the owners about participation. Dennis has not been able to talk further with the owner of the observatory. He will also call the owners of the historic schoolhouse on Wheeler Rd. We discussed how best to approach Forestdale as a historical district project and agreed to keep discussing this as it is such a big area.

Plaques: Dennis has a mockup of a plaque that had been done by NE Woodcraft. There was a discussion concerning where these might be placed, who might be interested and the cost. Shirley expressed concern about the size of the proposed plaque and indicated that she had heard discussion of shapes such as ovals or stars out of metal that would be less hefty and easier to mount. Dennis indicated that he has already had requests from citizens on Park St and Marble St. He indicated a possible cost of \$50 or more. Shirley expressed concern that that was high for residents and Vicki felt that it was an appropriate cost.

Workbook Update: Dennis has put in a grant request to Lake Champlain Trust for up to \$7500. There is a second possible grant through the Walter Cerf Foundation that is not yet out and requests are due by 6/24. Jack Schneider had some information concerning the Walter Cerf Foundation that is based in Leicester and has been quite generous to a variety of local groups and projects. It was also suggested that a request to the Trustees of Public Funds might be fruitful when their new fiscal year begins.

There was a discussion of the people or professions that might be on a committee to work on the workbook and Jack Schneider noted that some who worked on the previous version are still around.

Dennis made reference to the possibility of workshops to begin the process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dennis has received 2 emails from locals. One is one we all received which was on the Pickett House and no one had any information concerning it. The second one was asking about developing a walking tour/map of historical buildings in Brandon. Shirley noted that one is in the visitor's center of the museum. Vicki expressed concern about safety and permission for the owners of any homes considered.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.