

Minutes of the Freedom Heritage Commission Sept. 12, 2019

Present: MEMBERS Peg Scully (Chair), Bonnie Burroughs (Vice-Chair), Gale Morris (Sect'y.), Bill Carney, Scott Cunningham, Ray Dahlstrom, Alan Fall (BOS Rep.)

ALTERNATES: Karrie Buttrick, Sue Hoople, Janice Zecher

Absent: Alternates Lee Fritz, Mark McKinley

Guest: John Shipman, Co-President of Freedom Historical Society

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm in the Davidson Room of the Church.

Ray Dahlstrom's new email: Dahlstrom185@gmail.com

Peg read the Minutes of the June 13, 2019 meeting to remind all. **The Minutes were accepted** as presented. Janice will remove the "Draft" notation and post them.

Peg suggested we skip to later items of "Unfinished Business" on the Agenda so that our guest John Shipman could present his comments on the FHS House Project and leave. Commission members agreed and expressed thanks to John for attending despite this time of great loss in his personal life. Peg commented on Sylvia Carney's full life and many contributions to the community of Freedom. She will be missed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Freedom Historical Society's House Project

Peg brought copies of work to date from FHS for HC to view. She and John agreed that combining the FHS info with the work done by HC would create a very good resource for data on properties.

John reported that so far FHS had \$3,800 in budget toward their house project. They have spent less than \$2,000 to date. Part of the money came from the \$1,200 FHS raised online. Hillary Johnson worked as an intern this summer and entered data into the FHS Past Perfect program. She also checked the forms on house/property research that HC had done. John pointed out that FHS amassed info from tax records and Don Chase's work. They did not do the deep deed research that HC has done in most of their inventories. Sue Hoople offered to help with deed research as this combined project of FHS and HC house histories continues. John said FHS has 160 reports done to date and in folders as well as the data entered by Hillary this past summer. FHS feels she did a good job in the internship.

Alan reminded that Don Chase not only used info from Freedom records and individuals memories but probably also did some deed research as well. Alan has put copies of the Chase work online for HC under "Resource Material", so it is accessible.

Peg asked John if we can work on certain Wednesday mornings at the museum. John welcomed this. Peg and Gale will meet there on Sept. 18th @ 10 a.m. to check info HC and FHS have on Elm Street to determine what HC might do to help add to the work done on this town road. Others said they will check schedules to see if they can help.

John suggested HC think of raising funds for this important project. Peg asked if the Town would be ok with us possibly seeking grants and Alan said he saw no problem and felt the other

BOS members would probably be supportive. John added that the relational database the FHS has been building will be a real asset for the whole town.

Peg would like to explore possible grant sources. She also stressed that several people should know how to use the FHS Past Perfect program. John said FHS is happy to help with this and also pointed out that anyone can Google Past Perfect and examine its museum copy online.

John reported that FHS volunteers Pam Keith and Judy Smith have collected obituary info from newspapers going back to 1929.. Info is being entered into the database.

Peg thanked John for his good and helpful input. John left and HC resumed the Agenda.

POSITION OF RECORDING SECRETARY:

Discussion focused on someone volunteering to replace Gale because she no longer has internet access which is a vital part of our record keeping and communication process. Janice will take over in November's meeting. Karrie will learn the ropes for future help. Gale will write to the BOS requesting they appoint Janice a "Full Member" of HC, so she can be an officer: Secretary/Treasurer. Janice will take minutes, post meetings and minutes, write the annual report for the Town Warrant, work with Peg to put in the HC annual budget request to the Town, etc. Gale will help as needed. Gale will ask the BOS to reappoint herself from "Member" to "Alternate" so our numbers are correct with 7 members and 5 Alternates.

CONTINUED UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PowerPoint Programs. Peg brought examples of powerpoint programs done by HC. Peg did one on Town Hall, and Alan has done several for his OHW talks on Freedom History (David Burbank, Roads, How Freedom Was Created, The Masonic Lodge, etc.)Janice will print these for insertion in binders.

Snow Roller. Peg, Alan, Scott C went to the Knight farm in Westbrook to see the roller. HC looked at pictures taken. Scott reported this was the second formal trip. They need to figure out transport to Freedom. The 2 drums must be moved together. Frame will need to be removed for transport and will be rebuilt in Freedom. Dirt needs to be removed out of rollers before transport can happen, and the clipping of vines started by Bill Elliott will need to be finished as well. Several volunteers will be needed. Before rebuilding of frame in Freedom,a source of the right wood must be determined, seasoned, and sawn for the frame and the planks. Alan and Scott would like wood from Freedom, possibly ash, and to have a Freedom sawyer do the work.

Bill Carney offered his barn for storage, and he will measure door width. Alan and Scott had measured the 2 wheels across and believe it is just less than 11 feet. This will be confirmed.

Alan said the Masons have okayed storing pieces on the property when we get them to Freedom. This would be very close to Bill's barn for easy access if the measurements work.

Peg asked about timing and it was thought transport could happen some time in October. Alan will hope to get info from Sutt Marshall. Pieces will need to be handled with great care. Scott reported Mr. Knight will share the roller's history with us; it had been used in demonstrations at the Knight farm. Peg pointed out we were lucky in Freedom to have our original roller shed as well as (soon) an old snow roller. She thanked Alan and Scott for all their work.

Peg and Mark went to the roller shed and looked at contents that will need clearing out or made use of. Mark will help to move stuff that is dump material. Alan is still trying to determine if the

old doors in the shed do go to use at the Transfer Station. Shelving in the shed will be thrown away.

SCHOOL SIGNS;

Alan and Scott Brooks have stakes in for the signs except at Pascoe School site and Shawtown. Alan wants to look carefully for proper positioning of those. He needs to get permission. Bonnie will loan Alan her copy of Carol Foord's Shawtown video as a help. Alan said Scott B hoops to have signs in by another week or so. Alan said the 10 signs @ \$23 each cost \$230, plus handling of \$2.50 and shipping of \$12.02. HC had approved funding for the signs previously and voted to accept the invoice as presented. Gale signed the invoice as HC Treasurer and Janice will return it to Town Offices. Peg thanked Alan for his work on this project.

Meeting adjourned: 6:55 p.m. (53 volunteer minutes from this meeting)

Next meeting: Thursday, November 14th, 6 p.m. at the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Morris, Secretary/Treasurer