



BROOKFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

APPROVED Meeting Minutes Thursday, May 12, 2011- 5:30 PM @ Elm Hill Farm

Members in Attendance: Ron Couture, Ann Mathieu, Lois O'Leary, Peg Puza, Bill Puza.

*Visitor/prospective new member - Don Clowes, may be joining the commission. He may not be appointed at this time, but attended

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were reviewed. Ann motioned to approve; Lois seconded. Vote = 3 Yeas / 0 Nays.

2. **Mail / New Correspondence** - Reviewed the recent news articles related to the Commission's work: Town Pound article in the Spencer New Leader, Garden Party & Tea article in the New Leader, and the Town Annual Report with Civil War photograph on the cover. Also discussed West Brookfield's Civil War event on the green scheduled for 6/4 from 10-4 (rain date 6/5).

3. **June 5th Event at Elm Hill Center** - Ann, Lois & Peg formed a sub-committee and met earlier to plan refreshments, network for vendors & distribute flyers. To date there are 11 confirmed vendors, and have 12 paid admissions, with several others pending. Potential vendors will be encouraged to pay entry fee now so they can be included in the promotional advertising. Vendors will be assigned a # to determine their location on the grounds (TBD when Bill & Ron lay out the specifics for parking, location & vendor access, guest seating, etc.). Vendors will be allowed to arrive at 8 AM for set-up. Ann has secured the volunteer services of the Silver Tones. Will need to get a piano keyboard to accompany singers. RRI to set up tent, round tables with chairs. Discussed logistics of the event - singers on the porch, vendors on the right side lawn, tent on the patio, etc. Subcommittee will meet again to go over refreshments, paper product needs, etc.

4. **Civil War GAR - Ferdinand Dexter Post 38 Registry** - Project is complete. A hard copy of the transcription was donated to the Library for their holdings & for the public's use.

5. **Civil War program for July 29 & 30** - Date has been selected to follow the conclusion of Cultural Council's concert series. Hope to involve the Mass. 15th Vols. For a Friday night encampment on the green, followed possibly by a Saturday morning march to the cemetery to replicate the original dedication ceremony of 1890. Plan to incorporate Irish Civil War music to honor immigrant soldiers from the area; Ron may have a contact. Peg will work on gathering details of soldiers from the cemetery to hopefully be able to display name, regiment and name of battle in which they were killed. Displays at common (or library?) to include GAR book, sheet music from archives @ Elm Hill. Event represents a joint effort between Historical Commission, Cemetery Commission and Library.

6. **Spooner Door Knocker update** - Ron will attempt to contact Matt Custer for an update.

7. **Cemetery Mapping Project** - Bill is waiting for a response from the Tantasqua students on their progress.

8. **Historic Trail Update** - With Spring weather having arrived, will resume the clean-up and clearing, now that Bill is nearly finished at the Town Pound.

9. **New Business** - None at this time.

*Peg motioned to adjourn; Lois seconded. Vote = 5 Yeas / 0 Nays
Next meeting rescheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2011 @ 5:30 PM*