



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

Hopedale Historical Commission

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Suzan L. Ciaramicoli,
Co-Chairman and
Recording Secretary
Jonathan Chase, Co-Chairman
James D. O'Malley, Treasurer
Patrick W. Giles
Kelly J. Merchant
Frederick G. Oldfield, III
Karen L. Pendleton

Agenda
May 4, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Little Red Shop Museum
12 Hopedale Street, Hopedale Massachusetts

RECEIVED

By Lisa M. Pedrolis at 3:46 pm, May 02, 2023

THIS IS A HYBRID MEETING – IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM LINK BELOW

The Town of Hopedale is inviting you to the May 4, 2023 Zoom meeting of the Hopedale Historical Commission.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88165511766?pwd=YkluU2VNazdybnNXa05tRHhDdGxCQT09>

Meeting ID: 881 6551 1766

Passcode: 440500

Call to Order and attendance - Jonathan Chase, Co-Chair

The April 6, 2023 Historical Commission Meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

Minutes from June, September, October, November 2022; January, February, and March 2023 HHC monthly meetings; June and July 2022 HHC Special meetings.

Treasurer's Report – Sue C.

- **Expenses**
 - Request to renew our annual membership to Digital Commonwealth - \$50
- **Donations**
- Received end of year (FY2023) information and corresponding forms from Laurie Bartkus, Eric Kinsherf, CPA. We need to reconcile the ledger accounts to HHC records for the HHC and LRSM.

Old Business

- **SHRAB Regrant** – Sue C. – we need to publish an article about receiving the Roving Archivist and SHRAB Regrant.
- **Collections, Accession + Deaccession policies** - update – Jonathan and Sue C.
 - After a few phone calls, Sue C. was able to obtain contact information from Franklin’s Town Administrator’s Executive Assistant and Town Clerk for Rowan Lowell, part-time archivist recently hired by the Town of Franklin. Sue reached out to her by phone seeking copies/drafts of the Collections, Accession + Deaccession policies prepared by the previous archivist. Sue followed up with an email and another phone call. Rowan emailed the documents to Sue on April 6th. She said that she would consult with their Town Administrator regarding whether deaccession requires action by their Town Council, the equivalent to Hopedale’s Select Board and/or their Historical Commission. This concept is new to Rowan, being a town-owned museum, so she will need to do some research on these questions. Rowan indicated that the documents she provided were only in draft form.
- **Deed-of-Gift** - update – Sue C.
- **Donation of remaining looms** at SSE, in our charge, to North Carolina Textile Museum - update Sue C.
 - Sue C. called and had a discussion with Mac Whatley for an update. Sue provided Mac with copies of the licensing agreements with NCCHP and SSE and the donation document for the silk loom donated to the Windham Textile Museum in Willimantic, CT. She also provided him with information from the email from Bill Efron, University of Minnesota, regarding their willingness to relinquish the Draper X-3 loom, they would like to work on, to the North Carolina Textile Museum so that our “Draper Collection” can stay intact as requested by Mac Whatley. He also shared that he did have a conversation with Camille Kalash, the person from Texas, who was also interested in the same loom. Camille plans to visit the North Carolina Museum at some point to meet with Mac and to view the loom that Mac would recommend for Camille’s desire to weave the fabrics he had in mind.
- **Signs at Green Store** – update - Bev Carver
- **NPS – VIP Banner** for pop-up – update – Sue C.
- **BHC Grant - Bike Repair Station, Bike Rack, and signage for LRSM** – still need to reach out to Park Commission - Sue C. – no update
- **NE Region NPS historical architect Jed Porter’s site visit report** - received on March 1st - update - Sue C.
- **LRSM Wayside Panel Project** – update - Sue C.
- **Sr. Real Estate Tax Credit Volunteer Projects** – Sue C., Bev Carver, and Pat G.
- **CINTAS** – maintenance and inspection of alarm system – Sue C. - no update
- **Historical Commission CD from the State of Massachusetts, Roles, and Responsibilities** - update - Sue C. and Bev Carver
- **Community Preservation Act Committee** – update - Jonathan
- **Blackstone Heritage Corridor Board of Directors** – update - Sue C.
- **BHC VIP Photography Ambassador** – Tony Mistretta - update - Sue C.

- **Meeting with Kevin Rice (NPS) and Meghan Turney (Archivist) - March 1st** – Sue C. and Bev Carver
- **Eagle Scout Project - Trolley Bridge Signs** - Troop One Hopedale Life Scout Ryan Dupuis – update - Sue C.
- **Historical Books/Papers/Chairs/George Draper marble bust at Town Hall** – update - Sue C. and Bev Carver
Twenty-one (21) banker's boxes were moved from the 2nd floor of the Town Hall to the Little Red Shop Museum by the Highway Department on March 17th.

New Business

- **Resignation of James O'Malley**, Treasurer and Member, Hopedale Historical Commission effective immediately - Jonathan and Sue C. notified by email Monday evening, April 3, 2023.
- **Nomination of Beverly Carver for Member** - Hopedale Historical Commission - Sue C.
- **Alternate HHC members** - Sue C. spoke to and emailed Jeff Nutting on March 23rd asking if a new bylaw needed to be put to a vote before Town Meeting in order to add alternate members to the Historical Commission. Jeff emailed Hopedale's Town Counsel, receiving a response from Atty. Brian Riley from KP LAW. No by-law change is necessary. Alternate members would be appointed by the Select Board as is the current process for Historical Commission members. In MGL Chapter 40, Section 8D, it states that "alternate members may be appointed in like manner as provided for in this section not exceeding in number the principal members."
- **Nomination of Heather Dupuis for Alternate Member** for Hopedale Historical Commission - Sue C.
- **Hopedale Town Annual Report and Resident Listing Inventory** - Sue C. and Bev Carver
- **MA Humanities Grant** - Linda Hixon reached out to us to see if we might be interested in this for the LRSM. She suggested an interactive exhibit be created with the Darling desk donated by her cousin Wes Hixon, who knew both the Darlings and Chilsons. Linda said it could possibly include an oral history by Wes, who is 93 years young. It would require 10% funding in funds and 90% funding with volunteer in-kind hours.
- **Mass Humanities 2023 Staffing Recovery Grant** - Sue attended an on-line webinar on Thursday, April 6th - update - we are not eligible, being a municipality - Sue C.
- **Old Colony History Museum, Taunton, MA** - Sue C. visited this museum on April 1st, their first Saturday of the month "scanning day." She asked some questions of their full-time Curator of Collections, Bronson Michaud. Since 1926, the museum has occupied the historic former Bristol Academy school building. The building was designed in 1852. Its parent organization, the Old Colony Historical Society, was founded on May 4, 1853, making it one of New England's oldest historical societies. This might be a good field trip for Historical Commission members and the LRSM Senior Volunteers. They are open on Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Grafton Historical Society** - Sue C. visited their museum on Sunday, March 12th for a presentation on a historical fiction novel written by local author Ann Davidson and Terry Thibodeaux of Louisiana. It is a story about deportment of the Acadians from Nova scotia in 1755 and 1758. Sue ended up co-presenting with a personal family history connection. Ann has an interest in presenting at the LRSM at some time. Also, Grafton Historical Society President Nancy Therrien, offered to provide some guidance to us on Past Perfect, inviting us to visit their museum for some insight into this museum software.
- **Massachusetts History Alliance** - MHA has announced that their 18th Annual Mass History Conference is on Monday, June 5, 2023. Sue C. has registered to attend. It will be held at the Devens Commons Center in

Devens, Massachusetts. The theme of this conference is “Taking History to Town.” It is a service conference that supports everyone involved in the local and public history of Massachusetts. There is a registration fee.

- **MHC - State Historic Preservation Plan 2023 - 2031** - the Massachusetts Historical Commission is updating the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Plan and sought feedback on the draft of its vision statement, goals, and objectives. The draft was available through their website. This plan is for all preservationists in the Commonwealth. Feedback was accepted through Monday, April 24th.
- **Internet Archives** - Sue C. reached out to Internet Archives (IA) on March 15th about digitizing the Hopedale Annual Reports. She had a Zoom meeting with Tim Bigelow, the Northeast Regional Manager, based in Boston at the Boston Public Library, on April 6th. There is a cost for their service as IA is a non-profit. He did share that they do provide digitization services to Digital Commonwealth. Their operations are adjacent to each other at the BPL. He offered for IA to digitize 10 - 20 items at no cost.
- **Digital Commonwealth** - Sue C. had a telephone conversation with Jake Sadow, Statewide Digitization Project Archivist for the Boston Public Library, on April 18th, about digitizing the Hopedale's Annual Reports (1886 - current). This service is free of charge but could require several weeks for processing. Sue asked if things could be hand delivered. He indicated that this would certainly expedite the process. The Bancroft Memorial Library (BML) has the only complete set. Sue reached out to Tricia Perry, BML Director, for permission to have them scanned. Tricia is asking for permission from the BML Board of Trustees for them to leave the library.
- **Budget Meeting** - Sue C. attended a joint meeting of the Select Board, School Department, and Finance Committee on March 20th during which a presentation was made about the FY2024 proposed budget shortfalls.
- **NPS General Management Plan, Part 1** - received from Eric Breitreutz, Superintendent of the BRVNHP, on April 24th, a draft of this 70-page document for our review and input, by Wednesday, May 10th.
- **Hopedale Town Election** - Tuesday, May 9th
- **Hopedale Special and Annual Town Meeting** - Tuesday, May 16th, 7 p.m.
- **Hopedale Special Election for FY2024 override vote** - Tuesday, May 23rd
- **LRSB Reopening** - resuming on Sunday, May 7th, from 1 - 4 p.m. (1st and 3rd Sundays) and every Wednesday, from 6 - 8 p.m.
- **Fairy Walk** - Saturday, June 11th - volunteers need to staff the LRSB from 10 - 4.
- **Hopedale Flag Day Ceremony - LRSB** - Wednesday, June 14th at 6 p.m. Help with setup and refreshments needed. Marine Tom Beder is once again the organizer.
- **Hopedale Community House 100th Year Celebration** - Saturday, June 24th. Volunteers needed to staff a table for Gift Shoppe sales, should we choose to participate.
- **NPS Follow-up/Catchup Site Visit** - Monday, May 8th - 11 a.m. - with Eric Breitreutz and staff.

Public Comment

Other items not anticipated in the last 48 hours

Next meeting: Thursday, June 1, 2023, 7 p.m.

Adjourn