

Historic District Commission/Historic Commission
Meeting Wednesday May 13, 2015
Nesmith Museum 6:00 pm

Present: Frank Farmer, Joan Normington, Wendy Williams, Peter Griffin

Guests: Mike Hutchings, Mark Moreau, Joanne Dickie

Absent: Joel Desilits

Frank motioned to commence the meeting 6:05 pm

Mike Hutchings, on behalf of Drew Hutchings, presented the landscaping plan for Windham Presbyterian Church sign Eagle Scout project. **See Attachment.** Peter motioned to approve, Frank second, all in favor – approved.

Guest Mark Moreau expressed his interest in the HDC/HC and discussed his company's software to track assets of historic interest. He is the Chair and CEO of the NH office of UtilityCloud.

Guest Joanne Dickie expressed her interest in the HDC/HC and in helping plan the 275th celebration.

Minutes from April presented, motion to approve Peter, 2nd Frank, all in favor – approved.

Campbell Farm Update (Peter) – Peter explained to Mark and Joanne that Joan Normington lived in the home for 28 years, and the role of the Campbell Farm Subcommittee. No update

TRC (Frank) – Article in Eagle Tribune dated Wednesday May 13, 2015 titled, "Windham: Land sale proposed to fund projects". **See attachment.** The conservation land in consideration lies between Woodside South Development, and the Windham High School driveway. Peter explained the money from the sale could be used to fund the Moekel Pond Dam project, and the Spruce Pond project. The land may abut the Sheep Pen wall.

Date for 275th. (Everybody) Unknown.

Discussed books, large pictorial book, event at the field behind Windham Junction, reenactment, would church do something, famous people from Windham, lecture series, Veterans/ American Legion tribute. Include WHS in some kind of kid's event. Joanne suggest look at a town in MA recent 250th celebration to see what they did. Consider separate smaller events every month leading up to 275th. Mark suggested putting article in paper asking for ideas for the 275th and what the interest is.

Joanne knows people who might be interested in helping with the 275th.

Eagle Scout tribute event is June 6th 4-6 pm at WHS.

Windham Historical Society Wednesday, May 20th ([Windham Library](#)) [Thomas Jefferson lecture. 6 or 7 pm.](#)

Sheep Pen site walk – **see Workshop minutes and photos.** We discussed getting Joel Desilits involved and having another walk. Want to get the Sheep Pen on the cultural lists.

Motion to accept meeting minutes for sheep walk Frank, Peter 2nd, all in favor

WPC Holbrook Bell – **see attached document and photos.** Frank has made a book up for the museum that contains pertinent information HDC/HC discovered about the bell and within the Windham history. Would like to draft a more formal letter (with town seal) to present to the Trustees of WPC at the May 21st meeting.

Historic District Commission/Historic Commission
Meeting Wednesday May 13, 2015
Nesmith Museum 6:00 pm

Cultural List – Need to update and condense and make more accurate. Joan suggests two list; existing places, those that no longer exist.

Stone Wall/Cellar Holes – Frank went to presentation in Milton NH. The lecture was specific for a particular house.

New Business:

Frank received about Pinkham family tombstones discovered beneath a shed. One of the family members may have been in Revolutionary War. The letter was sent by Jay D. Johnson of Windham.

Next meeting is June 10th.

Nicole Bottai needs hard copy records of our meeting minutes, and help to organize things in the fire proof room. Wendy offered to help in the fall.

Deputy Fire Chief Martineau met with Wendy and Frank to discuss combustible materials and fire prevention. **See attached document.**

Get BOS or CC to work with HDC/HC to create incentives for developers to keep historic elements in town.

Frank Farmer recessed the meeting at 7:50 pm

► Windham
**Land sale
 proposed
 to fund
 projects**

By JAMES NIEDZINSKI
 jniedzinski@eagletribune.com

WINDHAM — The Planning Board is set to weigh in on a potential land deal which could spruce up Spruce Pond and Moeckel Ponds.

At a board meeting Wednesday, officials are set to discuss the potential of sale of 10 acres of land off of London Bridge Road. The funds from the sale would be used to pay for recreation fields at Spruce Pond and cover some of the costs of restoring the dam at Moeckel Pond.

Proponents say the project would be a way of funding

See WINDHAM, Page 5

**WINDHAM: Economic
 panel opposes proposal**

■ Continued from Page 1

“I believe there are other town-owned parcels that are better suited for sale to fund conservation and recreation activities in town.”

Laura Scott,
 Windham Community
 Development Director

two recreation projects without spending any taxpayer money. Opponents, on the other hand, say selling the property wouldn't be in the best interest of the town.

During a selectmen's meeting in April, Selectman Al Letizio Jr. suggested the idea, after speaking with people involved in both pond projects.

While there was some discussion at the time about the procedure and ability to sell the land, selectmen unanimously voted to solicit input and explore the idea of selling the London Bridge Road land.

Tuesday, Letizio said his goal was simple: to take a financially conservative approach and figure out how to fund the two projects “without having to spend one cent,” from the taxpayers.

“These two projects potentially could cost about a half million dollars to accomplish,” he said.

In addition to the Planning Board, selectmen plan to reach out to recreation officials, conservation officials, Moeckel Pond residents and people living near Spruce Pond as well.

“This is very preliminary right now,” Letizio said.

Other selectmen expressed their support last month as well, but stressed the need for more input.

There was some discussion about the town giving money to a nonprofit organization, the Friends of Moeckel Pond. Town officials agreed to reach out to the town attorney to get an opinion on offering money to a nonprofit, according to the meeting minutes.

According to the Moeckel Pond Village District website, the nonprofit group wants to restore the dam to meet water levels set by the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

Once the dam is restored, it will be under control by officials from the Moeckel Pond Village District and residents who live on the pond.

Windham's Conservation Commission owns the pond and the island.

Some town officials have already given their opinions. The town's Economic Development Committee is not supporting the proposal. The committee met last week, the town's Community Development Director Laura Scott said, and voted 7-0 against the proposal.

Scott told Town Administrator David Sullivan the committee felt the sale of the land would set a bad precedent for selling land intended for conservation or recreation.

In addition, Scott said, the parcel allows for direct access to more town owned land and the committee feels the town needs to protect cultural and environmental assets.

The London Bridge Road land also abuts two other parcels of land that are slated for residential developments, Scott said.

“I believe there are other town-owned parcels that are better suited for sale to fund conservation and recreation activities in town,” she told Sullivan, “and that this parcel should not be used for such purposes.”

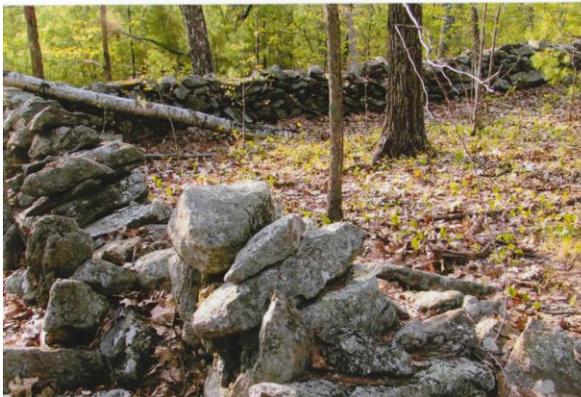
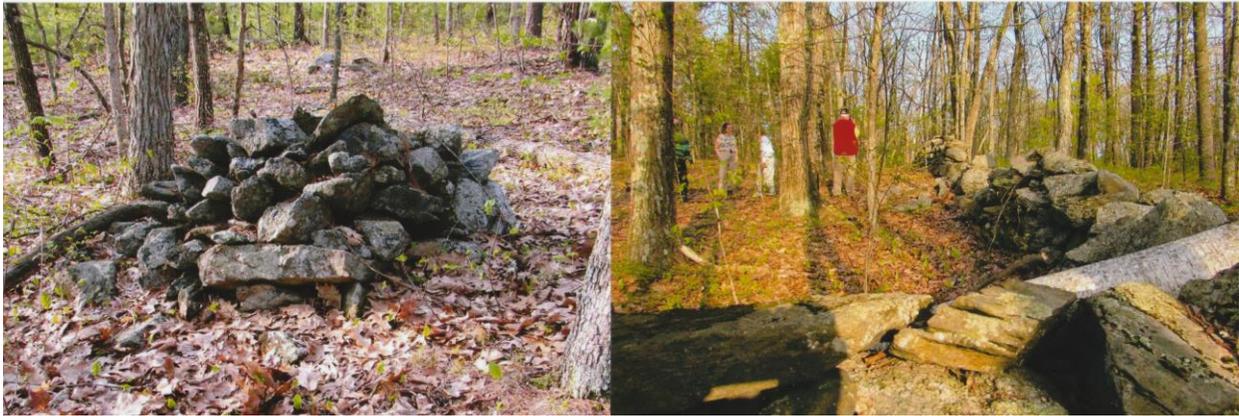
There will be more chances for input, Sullivan said. If town officials do move forward with the proposal, it will be up to Town Meeting voters to finalize the land sale, he said.

“It's a long-term process,” he said.

The Planning Board meeting is set for 7 p.m. at Town Hall.



Historic District Commission/Historic Commission
Meeting Wednesday May 13, 2015
Nesmith Museum 6:00 pm



Historic District Commission/Historic Commission
Meeting Wednesday May 13, 2015
Nesmith Museum 6:00 pm

