

**Present:** Len Smith, Chairperson, Ken Warchol, Christine Johnson

**Absent:** Wendy Timmons

Len Smith called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

### **1.0 Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Len Smith, "To Approve the Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2021, Seconded by Ken Warchol. Motion carries unanimously.

### **2.0 National Park Service – Update on Installation of signage**

The Northbridge Board of Selectmen voted, at their regularly scheduled meeting of July 19, 2021, to approve the Commission's request to erect four (4) Interpretive Signs at the locations specified and presented at the meeting – front of the Fletcher Forge, Aldrich School, on Linwood Avenue, across from the original signage. The temporary sign replacement has been approved. The National Park Service was contacted and told they were good to proceed.

### **3.0 Status of 250<sup>th</sup> Committee**

The Northbridge Board of Selectmen, at their regularly scheduled meeting of July 19, 2021, voted to approve the formation of a 250th Anniversary Committee to be established as follows: The Committee shall be comprised of 7 members appointed by the Board of Selectmen: 1 member of the Board of Selectmen (preferably to Chair the committee); 1 member of the Northbridge Historical Commission; 1 member of the Northbridge Historical Society; and 4 members at large, all to serve for a term that will expire after the anniversary celebration in 2022. The purpose of the 250th Anniversary Committee shall be to plan and oversee the development of a celebration to mark the Town of Northbridge's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Talent bank forms are online for interested community members who would like to serve.

Motion made by Ken Warchol, "To appoint Len Smith, Chairperson, as representative of the Northridge Historical Commission to serve on the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee". Seconded by Christine Johnson, the Motion carries unanimously.

Ken Warchol will contact the Northbridge Historical Society to vote for their representative to serve on this committee.

### **4.0 Community Preservation Committee Update – Discuss Support Watson Farm for CPC consideration**

The Commission discussed support for a pre-application to be submitted to the Community Preservation Commission to consider the acquisition of the Watson Farm. Christine Johnson shared that Playground & Recreation Commission and Conservation Commission is in support of this proposal.

Motion made by Len Smith, "To vote to support a pre-application to be submitted to CPC for exploring the feasibility of acquiring the Watson Farm". Seconded by Ken Warchol. Motion carries unanimously. A letter of support will be sent to CPC.

### **6.0 Status of MA Preservation Awards (2019 & 2020)**

Len Smith informed the members that no status was available. He contacted Senator Ryan Fattman and he has agreed to look into the status of this process and awards.

### **7.0 Other**

The fire department is interested in determining whether CPC funds would be available for preserving historical artifacts by purchasing glass cases to display antique fire and Whittin Machine Works apparatus. The displays would be available for viewing in the new fire station.

Motion to adjourn at 1:10 by Ken Warchol, Seconded by Len Smith.

Minutes submitted by Christine Johnson.