



Plympton Historical  
Commission

# Meeting Summary - 06/02/15

- Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. Members present Jane Schulze, Jon Wilhelmsen, and Jill Palenstijn
- Fred Underhill of Rochester, MA was also present at the meeting and presented his ongoing research about the Bisbee family that had lived in Plympton for 6 generations. He discussed the two farms located at 8 and 18 Elm Street that had been in his family and shared several letters and other original documents that are part of a larger collection of Bisbee historical documentation. The Bisbee Family Association is considering having their Annual Meeting here in Plympton in 2016. JW provided information about a possible historical tour of the village green and invited Mr. Underhill to keep him apprised of plans for the meeting in the future.
- The next order of business was in regard to the next phase of the town wide survey. The remaining areas identified in the pre-survey will need to be completed as well as the properties that were missed during the last phase. A list of those structures is included in the phase 1 final report. Also should explore moving ahead with National Register districts for Old Town House Corner and Harrubs Corneras outlined int he phase 1 final report. The Elm Street area and Prospect Hill Area are both potential areas to be added to or created as future National Register Districts. As soon as time permits JW will create a draft RFP which will detail the scope of the next phase, Requests for Proposals will be advertised as required.
- A committee is being formed to consider options for the new police and fire buildings. Planning the future town center campus is of high importance and the Commission will need to consider good siting for all of the building, usage needs, and storage that also provide for limited impact on the National Register Historic District.
- New Historical Commission members are needed. JW will post a general message on Plympton Helping Plympton. Commission members are encouraged to reach out to potentially interested residents.
- Discussion followed regarding JS reappointment for another term on the Historical Commission. JS agreed to serve for another term and serve as the Historical Commission's representative to the CPC. JW made a motion that JS be put forward to the Board of Selectman for appointment to serve another 3-year term on the Plympton Historical Commission. Second by JP and approved 3-0-0.
- The meeting turned to the status of the property on Parsonage Road. The discussion that followed included questions about the status of the USDA involvement, the siting of the house, the condition of the house, and the possible future uses of the house. Before any action is taken to alter or remove the house, under the Demolition Delay By-Law, there would have to be a hearing and due process under the by-law, just as there would be for any other historically significant property in town. JW discussed this matter in person with members of the Building Department and Open Space Committee and clarified the requirements of the Demolition Delay By-Law.
- As the former historical plaque maker is no longer performing that duty, a new plaque maker is needed. JW remarked that there may be blank plaques that may be available and the letters could be ordered. JP added that she would be interested in pursuing that project. The finish is wearing though on the signs in the cemetery and repairs will need to be

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made soon. The commission discussed the possibility of using other materials for signs in the future and also alternate shapes to make production easier.

- The next tentative meeting was set for Monday, July 27, 2015 at 7:00 at the Townhouse. The Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. on the motion of JW, second JP, 3-0-0.