Wednesday, October 2
Historic Preservation Committee Meeting

Members Present: Vanessa Brown, Corey Holquist, Austin Hurley, Madison Orlins, Melissa Saharko, Cardie Saunders, Bob Scialla, Pat Zimmerman

Other Attendees: Amalia Duarte, Matthew Messina, Sue Young

Vanessa Brown called the meeting to order at 6:45

Introductions were made of the new student members and current members.

Vanessa presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Matthew Messina for his year of service on the committee. Certificates for Madelynn and Cole will be mailed to them.

The committee discussed the proposed historic district signs. The Township Committee approved $5000 for signs to be shared between Historic Preservation, the Environmental Commission, and Recreation. We discussed the prices and the benefits of HDU (a wood/plastic composite) and wood signs. We agreed to purchase six HDU signs with no poles. We will source the poles locally.

Pat provided an update on the Union Schoolhouse Bridge historic sign. The sign has been made and is with the County awaiting installation. It will be placed on the farthest side of the bridge from Roxiticus road. The county engineer painted a rock to mark the spot where the sign will be placed, which will be in the right-of-way. Schiff owns the property and Alex Battey, Chairman of the Schiff Board, will send us a letter expressing their approval of the proposed location.

We discussed our visit to the Pitney Seedhouse. We plan to apply for a Morris County grant in the spring but, before then, we need to create a list of the work to be done. Bob has contacted a few contractors who will be able to give us a free estimate.

There was a discussion about Mendham TV’s historic videos featuring Ernie Maw and Tim Timpson. We may play these videos at a ticketed event to raise awareness about the history of the Township.

Pat shared some information about upcoming lectures:
Lecture on the Nartirar estate - Thursday, October 17th at 7:00 pm, Mendham Township Library
Revival of the Hard Cider Industry - Wednesday, October 9th at 7:00 pm, Ralston Mill
Miners and Mining in Morris County - Monday, October 28th at 6:00 pm, Morris County Library
Jews of Morris County - Tuesday, November 5th at 6:00 pm, Morris County Library

Melissa gave an update about our new scanner. With it, we will be able to scan our delicate books and papers, some of which date back to the 1700s. Once scanned, we will need volunteers to transcribe the text to make it a searchable. Melissa will begin scanning soon and can email pages to anyone who is interested.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 6, 2019 6:45 pm.

Vanessa adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.