

Historic Preservation Meeting
Wednesday, January 8 6:45 pm

Members in Attendance: Vanessa Brown (Chairperson), Corey Holquist, Susan Luciano, Madison Orlins, Melissa Saharko, Bob Scialla, James Zemaitis, Pat Zimmerman

Other: Amalia Duarte, Diana Orban-Brown, Sue Browse

Vanessa Brown called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

She introduced new member Susan Luciano.

Amalia Duarte provided an updated on the Historic District Signs. The signs have been ordered and she decided to order the poles from the same company. This was for two reasons - first, so that the signs aren't sitting around while we wait to get poles and, second, to ensure the paint matches. We all agreed this was a good idea. It takes about five weeks for delivery.

Because the Township Committee was reorganized, Tom Baio will be the new representative to our committee.

Diana Orban-Brown gave a presentation on the new Mendham Township Historic Park at Pitney Farm. Our committee is tasked with creating 8-10 information signs. The signs will be evenly spaced along the half-mile path. She suggested they be 2' x 3' in size but said we may also consider 18" x 24". Mrs. Orban-Brown reviewed the plan for the park and answered our questions about the design. She gave us several ideas for signs and we discussed these as a group. We will plan a separate meeting to focus solely on the signs.

We discussed the Pitney seedhouse. Pat and Melissa will attend an information session about a grant from Morris County on January 29. We also discussed sponsorship opportunities, fundraising, and donated services.

Bob had a contractor visit the seed house and gave a rough estimate of about \$20,000 to make repairs. This is a superficial estimate; more issues will likely be uncovered when any repair work begins.

We discussed our idea for an Antiques Roadshow-style fundraiser at the community center. James would be able to gather a small group of expert appraisers to donate their time. We would offer light refreshments. We discussed what to charge. We agreed we would charge a fee per appraised item and another fee could be charged for those who just want to watch and enjoy refreshments. We would like to do this sometime in April and agreed a Saturday evening from 4-7 pm or 5-8 pm would be ideal.

We discussed the sign at Drake's Clearing near the intersection of Route 24 and Cold Hill Road and the Oak Knoll Cemetery. Further discussion needs to be had before we decide what action to take. We agreed it would be nice to have a historical marker at the cemetery.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.