

Meeting of the Mendham Township Historic Preservation Committee
Wednesday, November 4th via BlueJeans

Attendees: Vanessa Brown (Chairperson,) Tom Baio, Corey Holquist, Susan Luciano, Mirabelle Pierre-Louis, Melissa Saharko, Pat Zimmerman

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

We discussed purchasing an external hard drive . The hard drive purchase was previously approved by the committee but never bought. Melissa will handle the purchase. According to Pat, Nick Monaghan told Bill Moran that tools needed for the Walled Garden will be supplied by the DPW as part of their budget.

Pat gave a brief update about the plans for renovating town hall and constructing a new police station. Not much has changed since the last time we met, however, the Township Committee recently passed an ordinance approving \$5 million for the project. The TC is hoping to begin construction this summer.

There is a question about what, if any, work should be done on the seed house before the winter. One of the doors may be damaged. Pat, Vanessa, and Tom will visit the seed house on Monday, November 9, at 11 am. They will look at the doors and let us know if it seems like the doors need to be replaced this winter. Otherwise, work on the seedhouse will wait until the spring. The paint on the seedhouse (both interior and exterior) may be lead based and, if so, will have to be appropriately encased or abated. This can be costly.

We agreed we should create a list of projects and their costs for the seed house and walled garden. We would like to research the construction of a greenhouse-like structure to be constructed where the original greenhouse was located.

One of our new student members, Mirabelle Pierre-Louis, attended the meeting. Mirabelle is a Junior at West Morris Mendham High School. She is on the swim team, plays piano, and recently started a new club at the high school with the goal of increasing diversity. She is interested in, and wants to pursue a career in, history.

Vanessa has submitted her resume to Mayor Neibart for appointment to the Morris County Trust Fund Review Board.

The signs at Pitney Park have been included as part of the contractors requirements. The Township engineer will give us specifications for font size, word limit, and graphics. We should be prepared to deliver our sign text before the spring. We should all be working on our topics.

As a reminder, the topics are:

Pat	Early Settlers - Founding - Split from Boro
James	Pitney Family & Farm
Sue Young	Industry - Cider & Agriculture
Pat	Iron
Vanessa	Slavery
Paul	Railroads & Transportation
Tom	Revolutionary War in Mendham
Bob	Seed House

Topics requested from local residents:

Virginia Voyt Washington Valley (Former HPC member)
Jeff Purcell History of Ralston (Ralston Historical Association)

Other possible topics - unassigned:

Schools & Education
Boy Scouts & Schiff
Seeing Eye & Morris Frank
Estate Era - Franklin Farms
Historic Homes
Notable Residents

We have ten assigned topics. It may be wise to prepare 12 or 13 in case some topics are not approved or don't work for some other reason.

Meeting adjourned, 7:50 pm.

Next Meeting - December 2nd 6:45 In the Municipal Building