

## LYNDEBOROUGH HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Annual meeting, Sept. 29, 2023, Center Hall

Members present: Stephanie Roper, Lou Rota, Robert Howe, Mary Lemire, Jessie Salisbury, and Selectman Representative Mark Chamberlain

Also present: Robert Rogers, Scott Roper, and Sally Curran

7 p.m. Stephanie called the meeting to order.

The list of members printed in the town report was confirmed.

There are two vacancies for alternates.

There is no chairman. Jessie was renamed secretary, Stephanie treasurer. Stephanie asked why there is a treasurer when there are no funds. Scott said money would be needed if the commission were to hold a public hearing.

### REPAIRS TO CITIZENS' HALL

Bob Howe said the selectmen are hiring an engineer to do an evaluation of the building, following reports of problems with the foundation by Building Inspector Leo Trudeau. One problem appears to be a chimney which was partially removed during renovations in 1999-2000. The chimney above the second floor is still in place and the weight could be affecting the foundation.

Scott, a member of the renovations committee, said the chimney wasn't removed mostly because there was no money to do it, and because the building is on the National Historic Register. The chimney is part of the exterior historic integrity and has to remain, or a replica put in its place.

He said he was "always uncomfortable with what was done. My idea was to replace it with a fake."

A way to leave the upper part of the chimney in place was developed by Committee Member Phil Brooks.

The designation to the Register was necessary to be able to use the second floor without installing an elevator.

Stephanie agreed: we had no money so we "jerry-rigged over jerry-rigging."

Mark said Phil Brooks should be asked to talk with the engineer, explain to him what was done. Lou said he would contact Phil.

It was agreed by consensus that the Commission is on record as approving hiring an engineer to evaluate the hall.

An LCHIP grant could be looked into to pay for some needed repairs at Center Hall that but would require a match. Smaller Preservation Alliance grants for studies could also be looked into.

## PURCHASE OF THE CENTER CHURCH BUILDING

Stephanie said the Historical Society has collected over \$97,000 toward the purchase. A Purchase-and-Sales agreement has been signed. The Society will need another year and Stephanie will write a letter making that request.

A yard sale will be held on Oct. 6 to raise money for the purchase.

Mary said she would put notice of the sale on Face Book in several places.

She also said that the church has several old items, including collection plates and candlesticks, that she will place upstairs in the church building.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Secretary

## ADDENDUM Sept. 30

The Historic District Commission has a line item budget of \$90.

Oct. 2

Mary has established a Face Book page for the Historical Society and posted information about the yard sale.