



Minutes of the Brookline Town History Committee – February 17, 2014 – 6:30PM  
Brookline, NH

Present: Dan Marcek, Bob Ottavi, Nancy Reinbold, Steve Russo, Keith Thompson (Chair)

Absent: Peter Cook, Scott Grzyb

Also Present: Donna Corey, Barb Driscoll

MINUTES:

Dan moved to approve the minutes of the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting; Nancy seconded; passed unanimously.

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS:

Nancy and Bob interviewed Betty Hall; they will go back for at least one more session. Betty has a lot of good information about Brookline to contribute; she also has some videos that might be of interest to the Committee.

Barb suggested that we compose an introductory letter template that can be sent out to interview subjects a week before we go to an interview,

Donna is scheduling interviews which she will be conducting. She has also compiled a list of possible interviewees.

SOFTWARE, ETC.

Barb and Keith led a discussion about transcribing the oral histories: getting volunteers to do them, investigating if a software program can transcribe them, etc.

Donna and Barb talked about software programs that the Committee might utilize to index the oral histories, help with project management, etc. Keith and Dan recommended that a subcommittee meet to discuss utilizing various programs.

Keith would like a volunteer to assist in training people about Google Drive.

PHOTOS:

There was a discussion about how to obtain images of photos that are in private collections. Should they be photographed in the person's home? Borrowed and photographed in controlled conditions? Digitized with a scanner?

Nancy asked for the Committee to consider acquiring a scanner to digitize old photos and documents. Keith will check with the town's computer equipment supplier, Sequoya, to see what is available.

Bob asked Barb and Donna to send him specifications that we should use for photos, so he can add them to the style guide.

OTHER PROJECTS:

Nancy received information from Alstead about their 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. (See attached pdf file.)

Keith and Bob will meet with Laura Prescott about updating the style guide.

Keith mentioned that the town has old posters, back issues of Brookline newspapers, etc., that should be looked at for the history.

There was a discussion of the subcommittees the Committee has and what they are/should be doing. (See attached Excel file compiled by Bob.)

## THE COMMITTEE'S PUBLICATION

There was a brief discussion of the Committee's end product: Does the Committee need to hire one person to author the volume? Or should different people contribute chapters to be edited?

Themes to consider addressing in the publication:

- Very small town – rapid growth
- Bedroom community/commuter life
- Places
- Characters
- Events
- Stories (Ghost stories/bell ringing/stone house)
- Famous people/Famous visitors
- How people made their living
- Housing – from homesteads to subdivisions
- Recreation
- Education
- Development: the Railroad; Route 13
- Summer People: Camp Tevya; Dr. Brusch; the Parker Family; Melendy Pond
- Traditions
- Industries
- Seasonal work

## ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:56 Nancy motioned to adjourn; Bob seconded; voted unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on March 17th at 6:30 in the Community Room at the Safety Complex.

Submitted,

Steve Russo, Secretary