Norfolk Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p. m. by Betsy Pyne. Also in attendance were Barbara Bartholomew, Betsey Whitney, Marcia Johnston, Thelma Ravinski, Sandra Paquette, Gail Sullivan, and Geri Tasker.

Treasurer's Rpt. The Regular Fund has a total of $250.00; the Gift Fund totals $5046.58, but this includes deposits from the sale of sweatshirts. There is a separate fund for the sweatshirts that contains $70.00. Money from the sale of sweatshirts was credited to the Gift Fund rather than the Sweatshirt Fund. Sandra has not yet received the bill from the most recent sweatshirt purchase; she hopes to have the totals for an update at our next meeting.

Minutes: Geri read the minutes from the March meeting; these were accepted as read.

Agenda Items:

Boy Scouts: Betsey Whitney and Betsy Pyne will give a talk to the Boy Scouts on Sunday, April 23rd at The Federated Church. They will talk about Norfolk's early history and its separation from Wrentham. They will also mention the upcoming Essay Contest.

Sweatshirts: Everyone who ordered a sweatshirt has received one, and all have been paid for. We are planning to put an announcement about the sweatshirt sale on the Norfolk Community Page.

Anniversary History: Barbara has completed the first section and displayed the pictures and captions therein. Thelma thinks that the book should be dedicated to Barbara Bartholomew and Betsy Pyne because of their tireless work on the book and NHC. They are adamant about dedicating the book to Bertha as they don't think that the author and major editor should have the book dedicated to them. Bertha is the best choice because of her history and family connections to early Norfolk. Geri suggested changing the binding to a spiral like Betsey Whitney's *History of Pondville* as it might be more durable than the traditional softbound binding. No decision to change was made at this time.

King Philip's Oak: Barbara showed a picture of King Philip's oak tree, a copy of the original done by the artist Diane Scott. The tree was about 20 feet in diameter and determined to be about 800-1000 years old. Most of the tree is no longer with us, but the artist's rendering is lovely. Barbara was given permission by Alex McClintock of Wrentham to copy the picture for use in our anniversary book; she will give him the framed copy as a thank you gift.

MAPC Meeting: We are invited to attend the Metropolitan Area Planning Council meeting at the Library on May 25th at 6 p. m. Their mission is to create a vision for economic growth and

development for downtown and for the Routes 115 and –1A crossroads. Betsy Pyne, Betsey Whitney and Geri Tasker will plan to attend.

Old Straw Factory: Thelma reported that Jimmy Fera and his wife are selling their house on Rockwood Road, which is where the Old Straw Factory was located. They gave Thelma old photos, which she passed on to Barbara for the anniversary book.

Essay Contest: Geri reported that the sixth grade teachers were not interested in offering the essay contest due to the timing and the fact that it does not relate to their social studies curriculum. She suggested running the contest through the library, using the school house for research and the award ceremony. This contest could be open to Norfolk students in grades 6, 7, 8. We'll discuss revisions to the essay contest and logistics at our May meeting.

Donation: An old thick, handwritten ledger of a market on Depot Street run by Chilson was donated to NHC by the Town Clerk, Carol Greene. We added this book to our archives.

Next Meetings: Our next meeting is scheduled for May 16th; it was decided to hold our June meeting on June 6th instead of the 20th, and it will be held in the History Room in the Library. Both meetings will start at 7 p.m.

A motion to adjourn at 8:09 p. m. was made and passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geraldine A. Tasker