**Town of Bath Historic Landmark Commission**

**Bath Town Hall**

**August 3, 2023**

1. Call to Order at 2:00 PM by Chairman.
2. Members Present: John Mason, Joyce Jones, Ryan Rebant, Stephen Harmison, Zach Salman.
3. Quorum present.

Members Absent:

Members of the Public Present: Melissa Schod, Paul Johanson, Robert Emerik, Trish Rudder, Charlie Webster.

Member of Town Council Present: Scott Merkle:

1. Review of Minutes: Minutes of the regular meeting of April 20, 2023, were reviewed.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 20, 2023, as presented by Harmison/Salman. Motion carried.

1. Treasurer’s Report: Ryan Rebant reported no change in the treasurer’s report but that the Historic Landmark Commission (HLC) will be receiving the first installment of the awarded Hotel/Motel funds. Funding has not been received but it is believed that the checks are being sent out this week.
2. Ryan Rebant presented the SHPO Flyer for the upcoming training on Preserve Your State, available Oct and Nov 2023. Three seminars are available, Research Essentials, Foundations: What’s the National Register of Historic Places and Preservation Incentives. Ryan will schedule a weekday meeting for one of these offered after Apple Butter Festival, possibly Oct 16th, open attendance possibly at the Ice House. Confirmation of this will be determined. Trish Rudder offered to publish the details in the Morgan Messenger when it is finalized.
3. HLC Brochure: John Mason said the brochure has been printed and is ready to be mailed to historical property owners. Ryan will place some in various business and Melissa will request the flyer be added to the Town Hall website, Facebook and other social media.
4. Betty Lou Harmison Brochure: Carly is working on the modifications but this is on hold for the time being.
5. Bypass Signs for Bath: Town Council, Travel Berkeley Springs, and the Chamber of Commerce is working on a new road name to meet the deadline for the County Commissioners. The road name has been opened up to a public contest with the finalists being submitted for vote.
6. Historic Cupola: The structure is still housed on old ballfield at the sand mine, HLC will review some ideas of how to preserve it and provide a more public presence; more details to be forthcoming.
7. ADA Access to Fairfax Coffee House: No options are feasible at this time per Paul Johansen.
8. Zach has recommended that two properties be removed from the contributing structures as they have been altered and are no longer qualify for that designation per the National Parks Service criteria. The HLC will speak to the owners in question and determine if it is agreed as a corporate body to file the Inventory Property Form to remove those properties.
9. Bath Historic District Plaques: Joyce presented six options; the solid metal samples were cost prohibitive so the bronze plaque that was selected by common consent was quoted by Mountaineer Wood Works at $48.00/each at the current metal market prices, the final verbiage and cost to be decided by HLC when the project is implemented.
10. Charlie Webster presented a comprehensive financial study (see below) pertaining to municipality size and feasibility of implementing organized town enforcement mandates. It was also discussed that property owners were better at maintaining their properties without the added layer of arbitrary oversight.
11. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the HLC will be September 21, 2023, at 2PM.
12. Adjourned: the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

