Members Present: MacLeod, Ruell, De Wolfe, Maher, Sharps

The meeting began at 4:07 p.m. in the Fire Station.

Minutes. On a motion by De Wolfe, seconded by Maher, it was voted, with one abstention, to approve the minutes of January 9.

Finances. Maher noted that the Commission's 2018 operating budget will be $1000 irrespective of the vote at the Town election as the proposed and default budgets are the same. $765.18 from last year's budget should be transferred to the Heritage Fund. There are still some unanswered questions about 2017 checks and donations to the Fourth of July Fund, but they are no longer the Heritage Commission's concern. The Heritage Fund and other similar funds were discussed.

Home Photo and Postcard Projects. Maher has set up a Facebook page and a Shutterfly account to handle the Home Photo project. She still needs to learn how to attach a label (the street address) to a photo in Shutterfly, and may have to switch to some other system. There will be different ways to send photos in, by Facebook, Shutterfly, e-mail or regular mail. The e-mail address is ashlandheritagecommission@gmail.com. The Facebook address is ashlandheritage. The best season to take photos was discussed, as was publicizing the project, Maher suggested business cards as an inexpensive way to advertise. Maher has scanned 89 Ashland postcards into Shutterfly and Facebook. The group selected postcards for Then and Now comparisons of the Town.

Squamstock. Maher has talked with Principal Shannon Bartlett, who, in turn, talked to the art teacher Teresa Merrifield. They are very interested in the project and can connect us with the Holderness art teacher. A meeting with the school officials will be held after March 15. The date for the event was discussed at length. The consensus was that June 9 was the first choice, with
June 23 as the backup date. Maher will contact the parties involved about those dates.

Town Hall Program. St. Mark's parish hall is booked for March 1. MacLeod showed the draft of the powerpoint presentation based on Ruell's talk on Town Hall history. She will send it to the Commissioners and continue working on it. The program will begin at 7 p.m. with setup at 6:15 p.m. MacLeod will do press releases and posters. Ruell will put it in the local news column. It was decided to not serve refreshments. MacLeod will get the projector, Ruell the screen and the key.

NH Preservation Alliance. Maher talked to Andrew Cushing of NHPA about the photo project, particularly about how to arrange permanent storage of the digital images. The Commission discussed the options of storing the images. Maher also discussed an award for the Whitten House and the future of the old school with Cushing.

Donation and Whitten. DeWolfe donated the book ARCHTECTURAL JEWELS OF ROCHESTER to the Commission, and explained her recent discovery that Reuben Whitten was related to Oliver Cromwell.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

David Ruell, Secretary