

SUBJECT TO CORRECTION AND APPROVAL

DUNBARTON HISTORICAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE

April 25, 2022, 5:45 pm

Members Present: Donna Dunn, Paula Mangini, Gail Martel, Fred Mullen, Lee Mullen,
Members out of town/absent: Dave Nault (Selectman Liaison), Linda Nickerson, Bill Nichols, Ken Swayze, Bill Zeller
Guests: Dan Comey, Black Heritage Trail of NH; Cemetery Trustees Judy Keefe and Linda Gray

Minutes: Gail made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28 meeting, Lee Mullen seconded, unanimous.

DHAC Financials: Gail reported \$35 in book sales, .06 interest, and a new balance of \$6,557.78. Fred made a motion to approve, Paula seconded, unanimous.

Stark Barn Video Update: Gail contacted the owners of the Queen Anne Home and we have permission to use their bathroom that day. The flyer has been printed and Janice Boynton & Bill Nichols have about 25 to distribute. Donna posted it on the following Facebook Community Group pages: Dunbarton, Weare, Hopkinton, Goffstown, Bow, New Boston. Janice posted to Webster and a few others.

Historical Site Signs: Gail reported that Dave Nault had dropped off 7-8 sign posts the town had discarded as not tall enough. Lee Martel will clean up the rust and paint them. Thanks Lee. We'll need galvanized hardware.

Black Heritage Trail: Dan Comey, Black Heritage Trail of NH, was here in response to our October email in which we requested they consider a sign in Dunbarton to honor Scipio Page. Their Sign Committee is willing to consider it and Dan will email us an application and coordinate the process.

If approved, the end product would be a brass plaque typically 18" x 24" with 80-100 words which they'll edit. The cost is \$2,000 (\$5 sq foot); they use a plaque company in NY to maintain consistency and protect their brand and name recognition. BHTNH would split the cost with us and will own the plaque. Mount is our choice and design. Markers are now in Portsmouth, Hancock, Warner, Milford. Windham will soon have one in their Cemetery on the Hill; a rough-hewn cemetery-stone style with a recessed area for the plaque. We should collect photos of all.

If approved BHTNH will want us to sponsor a well-publicized dedication ceremony focused on Scipio's story and black history in Dunbarton. Their representatives would attend and speak. We'd invite guests and the number is up to us; past dedications have had as many as 80 and as few as 30. The Mullens and the Dunns attended one and are familiar with the dedication ceremony.

We showed Dan our rough map for a Black Heritage Trail of Dunbarton along with our metallic sign stickers. He's not aware of other communities with maps but believes Milford and Warner both give tours, maybe annually.

We provided Dan with our source documents for Scipio, plus Teacher Tidbit sheets for Black History Month and Marianne Parker Dascomb. He was surprised to learn of Dunbarton's connection to Amistad captive Sarah Magru Kinson.

Does Dan have any leads on how we can increase our local knowledge? He'll send us a link to a DAR publication listing men of color in the Continental Army. BHTNH also has links to a national database of people of color in NH.

We have no written account of when Scipio or his family members were born or died. The Cemetery Trustees list Scipio's year of death as ca. 1815. Judy & Linda will let us know if it's ok to place a marker in Page's Cemetery.

Adjourn/Next Meeting: Gail made a motion to adjourn at 7:30, Fred seconded. Next meeting will be Monday, May 23, 6 pm at the Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Dunn, Chair & Secretary