

Here are the minutes taken at the January 21st meeting. WARNING: there are 7 pages, we did a lot of work! Please let me know if any bad errors, or if I spelled your name wrong, I'll change for the records. I'm sending to all email address I have from membership applications. If you know of someone who should be on this list also, have them email me at rwctucker@comcast.net

Minutes of the CPRA Committee called "Friends of Hubbardton - Mount Independence 1776 Military Road" met Saturday, 21 January 2012 at Castleton Free Public Library from 10 a.m. until noon, Thomas Hughes, leader.

10:05 Tom Hughes introduced the Crown Point Road Association Board members.

Joe Wheeler was a librarian from a family of librarians, who retired in 1945 to Benson and set out to find all he could about the Mt Independence – Hubbardton Military Road. He wrote articles and in 1968 he published them in a hard cover book. He died in 1970.

In July 2010, Tom and Jim Rowe, president of CPRA offered a walk along a part of the old Road, attended by some 35 people. They then met in the autumn and formed a committee called Friends of the Hubbardton Military Road.

Those present were asked to introduce themselves: Steve Zeoli (Mt Independence), Paul Andriscin (Interpreter Mt I), Dave Watts, Peter Kulig (West Rutland Hist Soc), Ann Sheehan (North Poultney), Ed Sheehan (North Poultney), Dave Schneider (Hubbardton), Matt McCoy (retired Guardsman and historian), Elsa Gilbertson (Chimney Point), Tom Bartholomew (Benson), Carl Fuller (Hubbardton Site Interpreter), Eileen Klymn, CPRA member, and Archeology enthusiast, Jim Rowe (CPRA President), Becky Tucker (CPRA Secretary), Mary McNeil (CPRA member), Brad Little (property owner Sunset Lake), Bob Ballard (Sunset Lake property owner), Jeannette Hughes (Belgo Valley resident), Dale Cristie (Avid hiker, Web page expert), Jeanne Hensky (grew up in Hubbardton, Gladys Adams was her mother-in-law), Jan Jones (lives Hubbardton, Castleton Librarian, scanned Wheeler's book, teacher), Barry Griffith (Shrewsbury CPRA member), Barbara Griffith (CPRA and GMC member), Brook Aldrich (Florence), Carol Aldrich (Florence), Randy and Nicole ??, Bill Powers (Rutland Historical Society), Tom Hughes, Kenneth Flowers (Boy Scouts).

It was brought out that the original CPRA membership cost was \$1; now

only \$3 for its lowest category. Tom Hughes invited interested to become part of the association, and meeting broke up temporarily for people to get refreshment and to sign up as CPRA members if not already members.

The Wheeler book was \$3; when reprinted will also be inexpensive. Elsa Gilbertson: What about the copyright for that book? Tom Hughes: Joe Wheeler had a copyright from Vermont Historical Society, we think we can just go ahead. Elsa: The Vermont Historic sites will want some to sell. Barbara Griffith: Can we use the maps in it, and maybe different ones?

Tom Hughes: There is a nice color drawing. The books map really stinks; our thinking has changed, so we need to find/create a better, new map to replace it.

Steve Zeoli: Can we add a web address somewhere? Answer: yes.

Carl Fuller: Landowner is important when making maps. Jim Rowe: Let's name all landowners throughout the area. Tom: Wheeler was assiduous about getting things done.

Brad Little: We need to contact road/highway people about markers. Tom: Wheeler thought every quarter of a mile would be good for markers. Jan Jones: Adopt a Road idea might be good.

Jim Rowe: The CPRA has replaced markers in several places, granite ones are good.

Tom: In 1956 Wheeler asked for "175 inexpensive markers" from the State of Vermont. Not clear whether he got them. Steve Zeoli: Granite ones are best. Karl Fuller: People are good about keeping an eye on markers.

Brad Little & Bob Ballard: There is a sign near where we own. Some signs would need to say something other than "... crossed here." The signs in Hortonia go along the road.

Jan Jones: Go to the Castleton Free Library web site, I will put a link for "local history," I don't think our scan of Wheeler's book will detract from the sales of the book.

Bill Powers: Make a map and put it on the web site. Tom Hughes: It

was always a work in progress for Wheeler, he changed things as he learned. Bill: That's the way it should be now. Should we GPS it?

Brad Little: where would we start to put it on the State register? Elsa, is it on there already? Elsa: No, there is a lot of work involved there. Jim Rowe: Yes, we did a lot of work for the CPR and didn't get it. They wanted more physical artifacts. Elsa: You need to update the property owners with new information etc. Jim Rowe: Lets' let that be one of our goals. Carl: Get all this other stuff done and we'd be closer to it. Jim Rowe: some people are dead set against this sort of thing.

Bob Ballard: Years ago at Sunset Lake some fellows came by in military garb on horseback looking where the road was. People hike up in there, sometimes the re-enactors do. Elsa: On July 5th there will be some re-enactors starting at Mount Independence and traveling along the route of the road as best as they can, to get to Hubbardton in time for the reenactment weekend on July 7 and 8.

Matt McCoy: My idea is to have a hike/race on all 26 miles of this road. We could run an ad, have a fund raiser, based on the challenges we set up. In New Mexico they have a Bataan Death March anniversary march. I've hiked it, it's a one-day hike; it can be done.

Jan Jones: A Facebook page would be good, too. Tom: We do this with the CPRA.

Brad Little: Let's get property owners' names. Tom: Who is willing to go to each town clerk for that?

Orwell: Jim Rowe

Benson: Tom Bartholomew

Hubbardton: Carl Fuller

Castleton: Tom Hughes (East Hubbardton Rd to Ira border)

Dave Watts (Ransomvale to Hubbardton border)

Ira: Barry Griffith

West Rutland: Peter Kulig

Rutland Town: Barry Griffith

Dale Cristie: I can make up a web site for this. (This offer greeted by many positive ahs!)

Kenneth Flowers: In 1977 British re-enactors came through, landowners were really agreeable to that. Carl Fuller: The Boy Scouts and Vermont National guard do something every year. Carl Fuller: We tried a bus

tour, but it didn't work well.

Carl Fuller passed around a large buckle that was found at a Hubbardton site, also pictured in Wheeler's book. The Bradley and St John families lived there when found, now property is Carl Fuller's. He thinks it's a German-made buckle.

There also photos in Wheeler's book of a key, and a cannon ball.

Jim Rowe: We have a CPRA auto tour every year; in 2011 we stopped at Pittsford's Hammond bridge. This year 2012 we're starting there and working as far toward the lake as is reasonable in a day.

Bill Powers: How do you GPS a road? We can do it now as far as we know it. The CPRA marker book now has GPS locations.

Ken Flowers: Castleton College has geology classes that study this sort of thing.

Bob Ballard: There is a lot of state land in Benson.

Tom Hughes: Where should we hike this year? Any ideas? Carl Fuller having one in September at Hubbardton. Powers: We are doing a lot of hikes in Brandon this year. Carl: People all want to know if their property was on the military road. Hydeville branch was just as much road and the regularly understood one, and there are several other branches.

Tom Hughes: OK, to sum up, what's important?
Book, Web Site, Map, Landowners' names

Paul Andriscin: Education is important so locals are familiar with the road and its history. Elsa: Marker number 73 in Orwell is being done over by the state. Not a CPRA marker.

Jim Rowe: On the map should we take a topographical map and use an overlay? Jan Jones: Can somebody do maps? Would we want to get some map people to help? Tom: Could we look for a grant to do this? Steve Shiltz is with the Rutland Region Planning Commission that may have maps.

Tom Hughes: June 30th the CPRA wants to take a bus load to Deerfield Village in Massachusetts. If interested contact one of the officers.

Meeting adjourned at noon to March 2012, perhaps at Castleton
Historical Society or West Rutland Historical Society. Attest: Rebecca
Tucker, CPRA Secretary 30 January 2012