



**JAFFERY CENTER
VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY
115TH ANNUAL MEETING REPORT
FIRST CHURCH IN JAFFREY
SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021**

JCVIS Properties in the Jaffrey Historic District

Jaffrey Historic District area was designated as an historic district in 1975

JCVIS Properties and Date Acquired

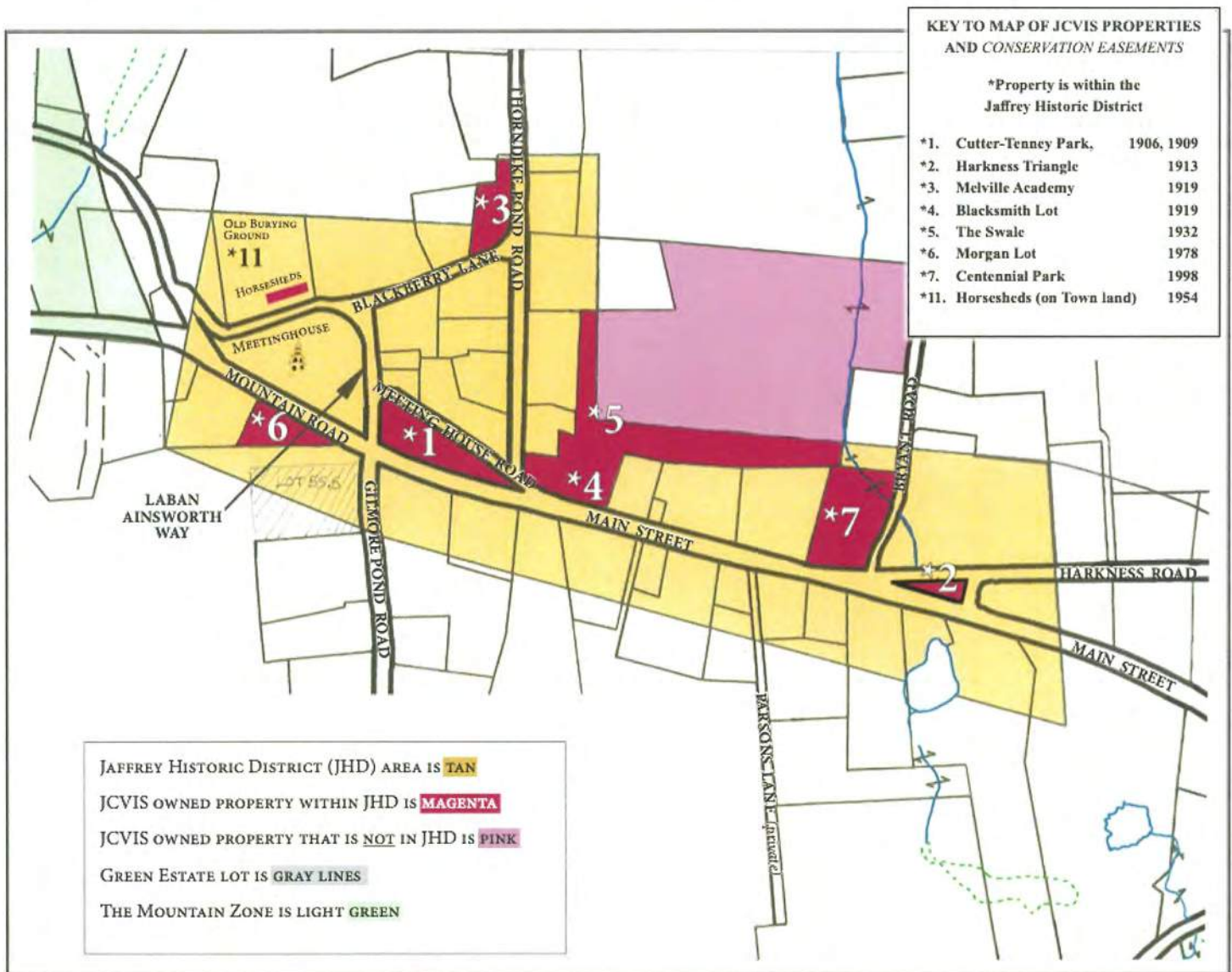
- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Cutter-Tenney Park: 1906 Lower Triangle (Tenney); 1909 Flagpole area (Cutter) | 3. Melville Academy, 1919 |
| 2. Harkness Triangle, 1913 | 5. Swale, 1932 (pink area outside of Historic Dist.) |
| 4. Blacksmith Lot, 1919 | 7. Centennial Park, 1998 |
| 6. Morgan Lot, 1978 | |
| 11. Horsesheds 1954 (on Town land) | |

Note: Outlined in light gray is the area of the Greene Estate property (Lot 55.5) on Gilmore Pond Road. The VIS is considering an option to purchase in the future.

Not shown: 8. Sandi Best Lot, 2011, the 6.23 acre "View Forever" of Mt. Monadnock, opposite 70 Thorndike Pond Road

The JCVIS holds conservation easements in perpetuity on property owned by others::

- 12.6 acres owned by William and Mildred Coleman at 43 Parsons Lane
- 7.5 acres owned by Margaret and Gene Pokorny at 24 Parsons Lane
- 15 acres owned by Robert Chase between 107 and 169 Thorndike Poind Road.





115TH ANNUAL MEETING

4:00 pm Sunday, August 22, 2021
First Church in Jaffrey Sanctuary
14 Laban Ainsworth Way, Jaffrey, NH 03452

AGENDA

Call to order: Suze Campbell, President
Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes – Mary F. Ley, Recording Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

Moment of Silence for Deceased VIS Members

VIS MEMBERSHIP

REPORTS:

Report of the Treasurer, Peter Russell
Report of the Finance Committee Chair, Ken Campbell
Report of the President, Suze Campbell
Report of Landscaping and Grounds Vice President Bruce Hill
Report of the Conservation Easements Vice President, Rick Stein
Report of Vice President at Large Sam Hackler
Report of Recording Secretary, Mary Ley

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Anne Webb, Past President

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT



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PHOTO CREDITS: KEN AND SUZE CAMPBELL AND GREG MOORE

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JAFFREY CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

SUZE CAMPBELL, PRESIDENT

PETER RUSSELL, TREASURER

TOM SCHIELE, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MARY LEY, RECORDING SECRETARY

VICE PRESIDENTS: ALEX BIRD ☞ SAM GREENE ☞ SAM HACKLER ☞ BRUCE HILL ☞ RICK STEIN

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR, KEN CAMPBELL

MELVILLE CURATOR, SUZE CAMPBELL,

NOMINATING COMMITTEE, CURRENT PRESIDENT AND FORMER PRESIDENTS:

ROB STEPHENSON ☞ ANNE WEBB ☞ KEN CAMPBELL ☞ TIM GORDON ☞ SUZE CAMPBELL

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MINUTES OF THE JCVIS 114TH ANNUAL MEETING, 2020

4:00 PM Sunday August 30, 2020, At the Horsesheds, Blackberry Lane, Jaffrey NH

The meeting was originally scheduled for Sunday August 23 , but had to be postponed because there was a threat of severe thunderstorms. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held outdoors for social distancing. Attendees wore face coverings and hand sanitizer was readily available for everyone's use.

The Meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by President Suze Campbell.
Members of the Board of Directors who were present:

Peter Russell, Treasurer
Susan T. Campbell, President
Ken Campbell, Finance Committee Chair
and Historian
Sam Greene, Vice President of Buildings

Sam Hackler, Vice President at Large
Rick Stein, Vice President Conservation
Easement
Tom Schiele, Corresponding Secretary
Mary Ley, Recording Secretary

Other VIS members & guests present:

Dick & Heather Ames
Sallie Austermann
Nan Beiter
Alexander Bird
Bhaird Campbell
Caroline Campbell
McCormick
Dave Daniels
Dorothy & Harold Davis
Susan Faure
David Felton

Linda Grant
Eileen Hackler
Sylvia Hamilton
Pat Harmon
Pam Hill
Clay Hollister
Sally Keller
Douglas Ley
Jack & Steph Minter
Bonnie Mitchell

Miki Osgood
Vlad & Joyce Petrovick
Rich Pedott
Jinny Russell
Kit Schiele
Patty & Tony Scholl
Jay & Vanessa Sprague
Kathy Thigpen
Betsy Trimble
Millie Vigneault
Anne & Cassius Webb

WELCOME: Suze Campbell welcomed the members to the 114th Annual Meeting of the Village Improvement Society. She thanked everyone for being flexible and being able to come to the meeting after it had to be postponed the prior week due to severe thunderstorms and high winds. Suze explained that the bags at each chair included the agenda and other handouts for the meeting. Those handouts included a thank you letter from Suze as well as a sheet entitled "JCVIS: The Beauty of a Community in Perpetuity" that might be useful to share with new neighbors. In addition, Suze enclosed a page from the Washington Post showing the "Risk of Corona Virus Transmission in Different Settings". Copies of the annual report were not given to each family this year, but are available for sale for \$10 each. A copy was emailed to everyone

and it is available on the JCVIS website:

<http://www.jcvis.org/publications/AnnualReport/2020%20AnnualReport.pdf>

The annual report has many color pictures this year and was more expensive to produce.

Suze thanked the VIS Board for their hard work this year and had the board members stand up to be recognized. Suze welcomed newcomers, Jay & Vanessa Sprague who just purchased the Chase property, David Daniels, the new innkeeper at the Monadnock Inn and Alex Bird, the new owner of the Currier House. She recognized Pat Harmon who bought the Sterling House and David Felton, the First Church minister.

The first item on the agenda was for everyone to toast to the beautiful new roof on the Horsesheds. Sparkling cider was passed around and Ken Campbell made the toast, thanking all those who contributed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting were moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

IN MEMORIAM/MOMENT OF SILENCE - Ken Campbell read the names of those members who passed away in the last year:

- Robert Banker
- Sidney Rogers Bixler
- Bancroft Farrar Greene
- Arthur Henry Hamilton
- Dr. Charles Howard Hamilton
- Geraldine Thierry Lyle
- Frances Xavier Quinlan
- Edward James Shea

They all contributed greatly to the JCVIS. There was a moment of silence.

TREASURER'S REPORT: PETER RUSSELL

The financial report is on pages 7-10 of the 2020 Annual Report. It was a very successful year. The group raised lots of money for the Horsesheds roof project. There was extra money spent on maintenance projects at Melville, but we ended the year in good financial shape. The key numbers on the balance sheet are the total current assets (cash and investment accounts). At the end of 2019 they were \$222,679, up from 2018's year-end of \$201,962. We did withdraw \$3,000 from the Melville funds for the maintenance projects there, but hoarded most of the money raised for the Horsesheds project. The year-to-date Balance Sheet/Income Statement shows property expenses at \$53,891 which includes \$41,120 for the Horsesheds repairs and roof materials, as well as tree removal at Centennial Park and Melville painting. One other business item - the group now has officers and directors insurance as well as liability insurance, so insurance expenses have gone up. Peter also shared the news that recently Ted Ernst [director of Camp Monadnock 1954-1973] passed away at nearly 98 years old.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 2020: KEN CAMPBELL

The Finance Committee comprised of President Suze Campbell, Treasurer Peter Russell, Dave Davis & Ken Campbell, meets occasionally to monitor the status of the JCVIS investment funds. See the detailed technical report on pages 11- 13 of the Annual Report for the description of the individual fund accounts, their history and their limitations. Ken thanked everyone for donating the funds to be invested and for making the beautiful golden cedar on the roof possible.

REPORTS OF VICE PRESIDENTS:

CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM: RICK STEIN

Rick reported that there is no new activity for conservation easements right now. Rick mentioned that if anyone is interested in learning more about small conservation easements near Jaffrey Center, to let him know. In the autumn Rick will be doing his annual survey of the current properties (Sprague, Pokorny and Coleman) and hopes anyone interested will join him.

GROUNDS AND LANDSCAPING: BRUCE HILL

The group has continued to use Gordon Services for lawn maintenance and other landscaping tasks. Tree maintenance has been a big job this year with cutting up the fallen trees, pruning those left standing and planting new trees. In the coming year, there are plans to plant new trees at Cutter Park and take down more trees at Centennial Park to open up the view. The lawns will be fertilized and treated to remain nice and green.

VP AT LARGE: SAM HACKLER

Sam Hackler is one of the three Commission members appointed by the Governor to determine the fate of the Jaffrey 202 Round-about project. The project has been ongoing for nearly 28 years. There were many stumbling blocks over the years, but it has finally come to fruition. The project will begin in 2022 and be completed in 2023. It was not an easy decision to make as far as the three commissioners were concerned. Sam felt that the State let the Town down in not making the project timeline clear. There will be an advisory group formed with downtown business owners and the construction management to discuss the timeline. Another issue that was a concern to Sam was the loss of parking spaces. There are some options being discussed in regards to increasing available parking such as purchasing the welcome center property on Peterborough Street or perhaps adding diagonal parking.

Sam believes this project will take the town in the positive direction.

BUILDINGS: SAM GREENE

Sam reported that he was very gratified to work on the Horsesheds roof project. Much of the hard work had been done by the Town in writing the specifications for the Meeting House roof using old growth yellow cedar shakes for a very competitive bidding process. Sam was able to cut and paste those specifications into his bid document and received proposals from two reputable roofing contractors.

Sam cautioned everyone that loves the gold patina of the new Horsesheds roof that it won't last forever and will soon weather to the color of the Meeting House. There are still a few things to finish up on the Horsesheds. The ridge line is not straight, but it would have been even worse if

Andy Webber had not done some creative pouring of concrete under some posts. Dennis Wright will be doing some touch up painting to finish up this fall.

Sam's other main responsibility as VP of Buildings is maintaining the Melville. Currently there is a program in place with Dennis Wright painting one side of the building every year. There is an option to do one side each year, or to go every other year. The next side that needs to be painted is the front of Melville.

Sam thanked those who made generous gifts for the Horsesheds project and the Mary Kidd fund for making the project possible.

ORDER OF THE DAY:

A MEMBERSHIP TRIBUTE TO SUZE AND KEN CAMPBELL BY BRUCE HILL

The book *Marshal the Willing Forces* by Robert Stephenson (2006) details the history of the VIS and the many presidents who have served the organization. Suze and Ken together have served over 11 years as President. Over the winter, Bruce and Pam Hill put out an appeal to members to recognize the Campbells' years of service. Much money was graciously raised to install new steps into the Melville as well a plaque to honor their time and effort and their dedication to the whole Jaffrey Center Community. Bruce showed what the plaque will look like. The plaque reads: "In grateful appreciation to Ken and Suze Campbell for their dedicated service to the Melville Academy and the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society". The new steps will be installed to improve access to the Melville, which Ken and Suze have worked so hard to make into a wonderful museum of Jaffrey history.

Suze thanked Pam and Bruce Hill for the recognition. Suze included her detailed thank you letter in the package of handouts, which she did not read. She did have other comments to add. Access to the museum is so important, as was pointed out by the student summer intern. She took his comments to heart and noted that the new steps will make it better for more people to be able to access the museum.

Suze asked that members read her President's report in the Annual Report (pages 14-15), but she had other topics to cover in her remarks. Suze said she owes so much to her mother who worked tirelessly for the civic groups in the Town of Katonah, NY and inspired her interest in history. She mentioned a book that chronicles the history of the New York village. Similarly, Jaffrey Center has a 4 volume history as well as the book Bruce mentioned in his dedication.

Suze showed a group of other important books regarding Jaffrey Center history, which she feels should be on everyone's book shelves! One of the volumes needs updating and Suze is looking for volunteers.

Suze said we are at a critical point of switching over with needing new people to become involved in honoring and preserving the town's history. Suze joked that it needs to be inserted into future purchase and sales agreements that the new owners of historic homes be involved in the JCVIS! Suze said the takeaway message is to recognize the importance of mothers and she hopes that her children have developed an appreciation of history and community work. Suze said she was so thankful that she was able to do this in Jaffrey.

Ken mentioned his mother and stepmother were also involved in civic community groups. The VIS was founded by nine women and one man in 1906. Mary Payson was President when Ken and Suze moved to Jaffrey Center. Mary was President for eight years and "you couldn't say no to Mary". Ken became involved with the JCVIS when there was a fight to save the Mountain from condominium development. In 2005 there was a Board opening and Mary asked Ken to join, and "you don't say no to Mary!" Ken found it enjoyable to be involved in the group and has been involved ever since in many roles. He thanked everyone for making it all possible. He also noted that Suze had served nearly seven years and he had served five years, so the plaque should read Suze and Ken, not Ken and Suze!

The Minteers were thanked for the beautiful tall bouquet of white hydrangeas they brought from their property for Suze and Ken.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: ANNE WEBB

Anne Webb read the slate of nominees.

The slate of nominees to serve a two year term (2020 -2022) on the VIS Board of Directors is:

Peter Russell – Treasurer

Mary F. Ley – Recording Secretary

Bruce W. Hill – Vice President, Landscaping and Grounds

Alex Bird – Vice President, Events

There was a motion to accept the slate of nominees. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

With no other new business to consider, there was a motion for adjournment which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Suze mentioned that everyone should help themselves to cookies with the JCVIS horse logo (baked by Pam Hill), Klondike ice cream treats and more cider or soda and to socialize.

Ken mentioned that the cedar roofing materials were on the front table for people to examine as well as compare to the shingles taken off the old roof.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ley, Recording Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Suze's Welcome comments
- Suze's Thank You letter
- The JCVIS: The Beauty of a Community in Perpetuity
- Washington Post "Risk of Corona Virus Transmission in Different Settings"



IN MEMORIAM, AUGUST 2020 – AUGUST 2021

Stephen R. Ames, 78, died Dec. 20, 2020
 Reynold Belletete, 101, died Jan. 1, 2021
 Bonnie Bennett, 79, died June 24, 2021
 Charity Brown, 73, died Jan. 28, 2021
 Louis Casagrande, 74, died May 27, 2021
 Barbara J. (Benson) Davis, 91, died Nov. 28, 2020
 William M. Driscoll, 91, died Feb. 24, 2021
 Douglas Ley, 62, died June 10, 2021
 Rev. Dr. John Hasbrouck Van Ness, 90, died Jan. 4, 2021

MEMBERSHIP

JCVIS CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AS OF AUGUST 10, 2021

The following lists include members in good standing who have paid dues and/or donations to the VIS in the 19 month period from January 1, 2020 to August 10, 2021. As of August 10, 2021, the total membership is 269 members in 168 households or organizations.

Thank you for your dues and donations. Membership in the JCVIS is open to anyone who is interested in preserving this historic community and is willing to give volunteer time and financial support to do so. Dues categories range from \$10 to \$1,000. Please let me, Suze, president@jcvvis.org, know if you have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Please note that purchases of goods and tickets to events do not constitute membership in the VIS.

The list of new members below is followed by a second list of current members. Please note: each list mentions the woman's name first, and names are alphabetized by the second person's last name. Italicized names are people who have passed away and are not included in the numbers count, but who contributed in the time period indicated.

New Members

Olga and Andy Bean
 Pauline and Steve Brackett

Kathy Thigpen
 Bob Warfield

Current Members

Courtney Cotner and Aaron Abitz
 Nancy Sommers and Joshua Alper
 Heather and Richard Ames
 Joan and *Stephen* Ames

Mary Amirsakis
 Ann (Bailey) Arthur
 Demi (Sally) Ayres
 Karen Ayers

Sallie Austermann	Judy and Sean Driscoll
Deborah Babson	Kathy Lunetta and Mark Duffield
Dorothy and Ken Bacon	David Felton
Sue Roston and Philip Bailey	John O. and Nazli Field
Anne and Jim Banghart	First Church in Jaffrey
Ramona Li and Bruce Bartels	William Fritz
Dax and Trevor Bayard-Murray	Sherry and Ross Gauthier
Marilyn Olsen and Mark Beckwith	Carol and Stephen Gehlbach
Nancy Beiter	Allison and Jimmy Georgopoulos
Nancy and David Belletete	Carole Gourvellec
Josephine and George Benedek	Bobbi Gilbert
<i>Bonnie Bennett</i>	Martha Gilroy
Lindra Best	Linda and Zav Giragosian
Alex Bird	Ann St. Cyr & Timothy Gordon
Robin Peard Blais	Sally and Bill Graf
David Bliss	Collette and Herb Gramm
Richard Boutwell	Janet Grant
Marcia Breckenridge	Jennifer Greene
<i>Charity Brown</i>	Toni Gildone and Sam Greene
Elizabeth Tong and Russ Butler	Susan Greene
Joanne and Bruce Buck	Eileen and Sam Hackler
Cynthia and Donald Burgess	Cynthia Hamilton
Virginia Burward-Hoy	Sylvia Hamilton
Suze and Ken Campbell	Sara Hamlen
Kathleene and Andrew Card	Mary Roy and Henry Hammond
Emily and Bob Carr	Hampsey and Grenier
Helen and Ian Carr	Pat Harmon
Sarah and Alexander Caruthers	Linda and Gus Harris
Julie and <i>Lou</i> Casagrande	Eric Healy
Libby and Robert Chase	Pam and Bruce Hill
Nancy and <i>Allen</i> Clapp	Caroline and Clay Hollister
Billie and Bill Coleman	Owen Houghton
Adam "Skip" Cornelius	Lisa and Steve Jackson
Darci Corrigan	Gunilla Johanson
Jane Cunningham	Jackie Johnson
Barbara and Hal Danser	Margot Johnson
Dorothy and Dave Davis	Sally Keller
<i>Barbara</i> and Peter Davis	Nancy Kemmis
Stephanie Plent Denman and Pepper Denman	Stephanie and Bob Kyte
Lynne and Steve Dodge	Ilona Kwiecien
<i>Bill Driscoll</i>	Sally and Bruce Larsen
	Tracy and Josh Levesque

Mary and <i>Doug</i> Ley	Betty and Kent Royce
Val Atkins and Mike Lichter	Marie Royce Ruffle
Phyllis and Larry Liebman	Jinnie and Peter Russell
Steven Liebman	Sabrina Estabrook Russett & Timothy Russett
Nancy Lloyd	Casey Leach and Chuck Saunders
Pat and Don MacIsaac	Sharon Epple and Carol Schaab
Eleanor Maki	Nancy and Daniel Scheerer
Marcie and Joe Manning	Kit and Tom Schiele
Tonya and Jonathan Marshall	Bill Schofield
Mary Jo Marvin	Pat and Tony Scholl
Nancy Massey	Ann Raleigh Schulte
Melinda and Matthew McCarthy	Betty Shea
Peter McGowan	Tanja and Leonard Short
Nina and Archie McIntyre	Robin Oliver and Brad Smith
Judith and Bob Melzer	Elizabeth Smith
Stephanie and Jack Minteer	Jay and Vanessa Sprague
Randy Morse	Rick Stein
Lisa and Todd Muilenberg	Rob Stephenson
Alisa and David Nash	Nancy and Kevin Sterling
Kara and Jason Nero	Elise and Don Strickland
Miki Osgood	Judy and Peter Tarpgaard
Charlie Palmer	Nancy (Ann) Taylor
Martha Pappas	Deborah and Steve Thurber
Susan Faure and Richard Pedott	Laurel McKenzie and Charles Turcotte
Peggy Hogan and Gary Penfield	Sharon and Marc Tieger
Joyce and Vladimir Petkovich	Elizabeth Tong and Russ Butler
Margaret and Gene Pokorny	Betsy and David Trimble
Dee and Ed Poole	Jenda and Charles Trimble
Tara and Emery Prior	<i>John Van Ness</i>
Amy MacGregor Radin and Robert Radin	Millie Vigneault
Lisa and Ross Ramey	Louise and Bernie Watson
Martha and Bill Raymond	Anne and Cassius Webb
Tinka Reed	Kathy and Bill Weibel
Chris and Ron Reid	Pat and Steve Weiner
Linda Grant and Jim Reiman	Ellen Widmer
Nancy Clay Rierson	Nancy Elder-Wilfrid and Daniel Wilfrid
Kristin Leader and Paul Robb	Elizabeth and Marc Winiacki
Marianne and Jim Rothnie	Tuesday and Dennis Wright
Cynthia and Mark Rouvalis	Carolyn Garretson and Harry Young
Ann Royce	



REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society, Inc.

Treasurer's Report

12/31/20

JCVIS Members,

Financial Statements and Notes for 2020 are attached. The figures are unaudited but have been reviewed by Randy Hull while preparing our tax returns for the IRS and State of NH.

In spite of Covid cancelling all our usual events much was accomplished in 2020: JCVIS received an additional \$11,711 bequest from the Mary Kidd Estate, completed fundraising for the horseshed roof project and raised money for a walkway at Melville Academy to honor Ken and Suze Campbell's long service to our organization.

The final cost of the horseshed roof was \$41,120. The project was funded with a combination of \$15,000 dedicated Alice Poole horseshed funds, \$10,000 Mary Kidd Estate funds, and general funds. All possible because of past and present members' generosity.

As treasurer I encourage donations to the Society's general fund rather than to the restricted funds with specific uses. This will give the board flexibility to allocate money where it is most needed.

Respectfully submitted,


Peter Russell, Treasurer

Cash Basis 6/3/21

**JCVIS
Balance Sheet
2019 vs 2020**

	<u>Dec 31, 20</u>	<u>Dec 31, 19</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Checking/Savings					
1100 · Cash Accounts-Total	110,102	114,411	(4,309)	-4%	
1146 · Fid MM - VIS Maint Fund	12,518	12,484	34	0%	
1148 · Easement Accounts-Total	19,641	19,317	323	2%	
1155 · Fid. Amer Fund Bal - 21st Cent	11,329	11,062	267	2%	
1160 · Fid. Puritan-Wetherell-Melville	39,525	36,857	2,668	7%	
1170 · Fid. Janus- A. Poole Horsesheds	6,959	18,227	(11,268)	-62%	
1180 · Fid. Oakmark-Swale/Cent Park	10,869	10,322	548	5%	
Total Checking/Savings	<u>210,942</u>	<u>222,679</u>	<u>(11,737)</u>	<u>-5%</u>	
Total Current Assets	210,942	222,679	(11,737)	-5%	Note 1
Fixed Assets					
1240 · Melville Acad Bldg Improv.	5,958	5,958	0	0%	
1240 · Accum Deprec.	(325)	(172)	(153)	-89%	
1240 · Land	47,600	47,600	0	0%	
Total Fixed Assets	<u>53,233</u>	<u>53,386</u>	<u>(153)</u>	<u>-0%</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>264,175</u>	<u>276,065</u>	<u>(11,890)</u>	<u>-4%</u>	Note 2
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
Equity					
3100 · Unrestricted Net Assets	114,411	96,096	18,314	19%	
3200 · Temp. Restricted Net Assets	137,592	135,731	1,862	1%	
3300 · Perm. Restricted Net Assets	24,062	23,673	389	2%	
Net Income	<u>(11,890)</u>	<u>20,565</u>	<u>(32,455)</u>	<u>-158%</u>	
Total Equity	<u>264,175</u>	<u>276,065</u>	<u>(11,890)</u>	<u>-4%</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>264,175</u>	<u>276,065</u>	<u>(11,890)</u>	<u>-4%</u>	Note 3

Note 1 Per recommendation of R Hull, Tax Accountant, Fund balances are reported at Cost Basis.

Market Value of Total Current Assets on 12/31/2020 was \$238,320.84

Note 2 **Other Assets.** The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation holds and manages two funds for the benefit of the JCVIS.

As of 12/31/20 these assets totaled \$241,230.26 and are carried on the NHCF books.

Note 3 **Liabilities:** None

6/3/20
Cash Basis

JCVIS
Income Expense
2020 vs 2019

	<u>Jan - Dec 20</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4100 · Donations, Gifts, Grants	31,936	21,295	10,641	50%
4200 · Membership Dues	6,835	5,115	1,720	34%
4300 · Event Income	30	4,112	(4,082)	-99%
4400 · Investment Income	7,847	7,116	731	10%
4700 · Sales Income-Merchandise	12	294	(282)	-96%
4800 · NHCF & Other Income	8,372	8,364	8	0%
Total Income	<u>55,031</u>	<u>46,296</u>	<u>8,735</u>	<u>19%</u>
Expense				
6100 · Property Expense	56,809	17,023	39,786	234%
6200 · Event Expense	1,356	4,496	(3,140)	-70%
6300 · Fundraising Expense	1,724	937	787	84%
6400 · Program Service Expense	2,413	0	0	0%
6500 · Sales Merchandise Expense	0	0	0	0%
6610 · Bank Fees	67	115	(48)	-42%
6620 · Business Registration Fees	25	75	(50)	-67%
6650 · Dprec & Amort	153	153	0	0%
6700 · Insurance	3,562	2,119	1,443	68%
6710 · Memberships	237	237	0	0%
6720 · Office Expense	76	76	0	0%
7000 · Other/Misc. Expenses				
7100 · Professional Fees	500	500	0	0%
Total Expense	<u>66,922</u>	<u>25,731</u>	<u>41,191</u>	<u>160%</u>
Net Income	<u>(11,890)</u>	<u>20,565</u>	<u>(32,455)</u>	<u>-158%</u>



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT, AUGUST 2021

The Finance Committee thanks all members and donors for your continued support of the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society. It is your dedication, commitment, dues and donations that help the organization to continue to preserve our historic village community.

This is a report on VIS investments in 2020 and an update on developments through July 31, 2021. Due to tax accounting, the Treasurer's Report from QuickBooks is on the basis of cost, not market value. The goal of the Finance Committee is managing prudently for market value so here we measure by market value. The Finance Committee in 2020 was composed of Ken Campbell, chair; Dave Davis, and ex officio, Treasurer Peter Russell and President Suze Campbell. The Treasurer executes any changes in the investments through Fidelity.

VIS Cash, Mutual Funds and Invested Accounts

VIS Maintenance Fund – The VIS started this fund in 2016 and put \$8,000 into Fidelity Government Cash Reserves (FDRXX) money market fund. It is designated as a general funds reserve account for (but not limited to) use as a VIS General Maintenance Fund. It provides flexibility in funding maintenance of any of our properties when the need arises.

The cash balance on 12/31/19 was \$12,484; on 12/31/20, it was \$12,518.

VIS Treasurer's Account # 1146, VIS Maintenance, FDRRX 12-mo. up: \$34; 0.027%.

Bal. 7/31/21 was \$12,519, up \$1, 0.01%.

The Conservation Easement Fund was created in June 2011 to be a totally spendable fund restricted as a reserve to contest future violations of VIS conservation easements and for easement administration (signs, costs of monitoring, etc.) The Easement funds in 2019 were held partly in a TD Bank Savings Account and were partly invested in a 70% stock fund, Fidelity Asset Manager 70% (FASGX). Funds have been invested gradually since 2015. The combined balance on 12/31/19 was \$12,548 in FASGX, \$6,769 in TD, a total of \$19,317.

In 2020, the TD portion was switched to Fidelity Treasury Money Market, FZFX.

Combined balance on 12/31/20 was \$23,512, a 12-month gain of \$4,195; 21.72%.

1148, 7/31/21 Combined balance was \$25,049, a 7-month gain of \$1,537; 6.54%.

JCVIS 21st Century Endowment Fund has been invested in American Funds Moderate Growth & Income Portfolio (BLPCX) since 2015. It is an endowment fund controlled and owned by the JCVIS, started in 2011. The VIS intends to reinvest and add general revenues until the endowment reaches at least \$25,000 to \$50,000 before taking out income. The accumulated donations of \$3,500 were invested in January 2015 in BLPCX. The Board added \$2,000 in unrestricted donations later in 2015, in 2017 and 2018. The balance on 12/31/19 was \$11,062.

The balance 12/31/20 was \$14,222, a 12-month gain of \$3,160; 28.57%

#1155 21st Century Endowment, Bal. 7/31/21 was \$15,503, 7-month gain of \$1,281; 9.01%.

The Wetherell Fund/Melville Academy Museum – The Fidelity Puritan Fund (FPURX) is used to support and maintain Melville Academy and its museum. It was established in 1967 through a \$10,000 restricted bequest from Lawrence Wetherell. Josephine Wetherell bequeathed \$10,000 to the VIS in 1975 of unrestricted funds. The Wetherell Fund on 12/31/2019 was \$36,857; 12/31/20 bal. was \$54,273, a 12-month gain of \$17,416; 47.25%.

#1160 Wetherell/Melville Academy Museum, Bal. 7/31/21 was \$61,002, a 7-month gain of \$6,729; 12.4%.

The Alice Poole Fund (Horsesheds) – The Janus Henderson Balanced Class T Fund (JABAX) is used to support and maintain the Horsesheds. The JCVIS in 1941 received a permanently restricted bequest of \$3,000 from VIS member Alice Wood Poole (Mrs. Arthur E. Poole, 1873-1941) for “caring for and improving the old cemetery near the town house” (Meetinghouse). The Town long ago took over from the VIS the care of the cemetery. The VIS has used this fund to maintain, on the Town’s cemetery land, the 1810 Horsesheds. The Alice Poole Fund on 12/31/19 was \$23,730. In July, 2020, \$15,000 was withdrawn from the fund to help finance the cedar shake roof on the Horsesheds.

On Dec. 31, 2020, the fund had a balance of \$9,996, a 12-month gain of \$1,266 (5.34% of the end of 2019 figure).

#1170 Poole/Horsesheds, Bal. 7/31/21 was \$1,117, a 7-month gain of \$1,121, 11.21%.



Alice Wood Poole (Mrs. Arthur E. Poole, right) is buried in The Old Burying Ground.

The Swale and Centennial Park Fund – The Oakmark Equity & Income Fund (OAKBX) supports the Swale and Centennial Park. It is a temporarily restricted account that can be entirely spent. The fund on 12/31/19 was at \$12,602.

On Dec. 31, 2020, the balance was \$13,697, a 12-month gain of \$1,095, 8.69%

#1180 Swale & Centennial Park, Bal. 7/31/21 was \$16,143, a 7-month gain of \$2,446, 17.86%.

Fidelity Core Account – The Fidelity Core Account is a cash reserve in Fidelity government Money Market (SPAAX) to feed the checking account when it dips below \$2,000. In 2019, it was earning a yearly rate of nearly 2%. It fluctuates weekly. It includes Mary Kidd’s bequest as the VIS didn’t want to risk that fund when it came in during a volatile stock market. The VIS is exploring alternatives.

#1140 is the Fidelity Core SPAAX account. It and the TD Bank Checking account combine to make the “1100 Cash Accounts – Total” in the Treasurer’s Balance Sheet. The Fidelity SPAAX

balance 12/31/19 was \$105,831.18; Bal. 12/31/20 was \$101,105.98. It earned \$274.80 in 2020, a 12 month gain of 0.259%; Balance 7/31/21 was \$91,112. Withdrawals were \$10,000.

Mary Kidd Bequest – An unrestricted bequest of \$80,000 from the estate of Mary Harek Kidd (Mrs. Coburn Kidd) was received in December 2018. She died Nov. 28, 2017 at the age of 97. The Finance Committee and the VIS Board agreed in 2019 to keep the money unrestricted for special projects in the Government Money Market account (#1140) (above). The VIS Board voted to use these funds for "special projects for the benefit of the JCVIS." Later, the Board voted to use \$10,000 of the Kidd bequest to match fund-raising donations for the Horsesheds cedar shake roof, completed June 25, 2020 at a cost of \$41,120. The VIS raised more than \$20,000 for the Horsesheds roof.

2020 Activity: The \$10,000 sum from the Kidd Fund, matching donations for the 2020 Horsesheds roof, was transferred to checking on July 1, 2020. On Sept. 25, 2020, the VIS received the final payment (\$11,710.63) from the estate. The remaining Mary Kidd Fund principal balance then became, and remains today, at \$81,710.63.

ALL FIDELITY ACCOUNTS

Fidelity's 2020 Year-End Investment Report

Jan. 1, 2020 \$224,877.04

Dec.31, 2020 \$229,325.06

53% Mutual Funds; 47% Core Account

56% Mutual Funds , 44% Core Account

Additions: \$33,801.91; Subtractions: -\$45,000

Change in Investment Value: \$15,646.11

Income: Dividends \$1,547.44; Short-term Capital Gains \$337.02

Long-term Capital Gains \$2,562.07

Total Income: \$4,446.53

Fidelity's July 31, 2021 statement showed an account value of \$232,444.18 with subtractions of \$10,000. 52% of the value is in mutual stock funds; 61% is in mutual funds; the balance is in money management funds. The seven-month change in investment value was \$13,119.

Other Assets: NH Charitable Foundation Endowment JCVIS Fund– The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) owns and controls two JCVIS endowment funds, valued 6/30/21 at \$263,004. The net investment return to date in 2021 is \$33,040, a 7-month gain of 13.69%. The funds generated \$10,527 annual income to the VIS in February, 2021. These funds are not carried on the VIS books because they belong to the NHCF. The initial fund began in 1997 with a deposit of \$11,550. The VIS began to take income in 2010 with a "spending distribution" of \$4,766. In 2014, the late VIS President Mary Payson bequeathed \$100,000 to the NHCF/JCVIS account, doubling the endowment and starting the second fund. In the 12 years of 2010 through 2021, the VIS has received income of \$82,027 from the NHCF's VIS endowment funds.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Campbell, Chair, on behalf of the Finance Committee:

Members Dave Davis and *ex officio*, President Suze Campbell and Treasurer Peter Russell.



REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND MELVILLE CURATOR: LOOKING AHEAD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF ASPIRATIONS, ACTION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over the past year a lot of deferred maintenance has been accomplished to maintain the VIS buildings and open spaces. The VIS Board of Directors and many volunteers have worked very hard behind the scenes to turn aspirations into reality. Nevertheless, the year's time out due to the COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted the normal rhythm and functioning of the Society. Board members have learned how to conduct our business on ZOOM for instance, keeping pace with so many others who have found this means of communicating both challenging as well as convenient. The VIS purchased its own ZOOM account to facilitate our meetings and supplement our numerous virtual on-line business conversations.

Rotation of officers and members of the VIS has been impacted by this difficult year. I have said I will serve another term. I am grateful that, along with me, Sam Greene, Sam Hackler, Tom Schiele, and Rick Stein have also agreed to serve for another term, 2021-2023. Alex Bird, Mary Ley, Bruce Hill and Peter Russell will continue in their 2020-2022 terms.

I am additionally very grateful to Mary Ley for keeping all these virtual meetings and ZOOM minutes in order. I am especially appreciative of her dedication to the VIS, being mindful of the great and sudden loss to her, her family of her husband, Representative Doug Ley.

Bruce Hill, Sam Greene and Ken Campbell have worked tirelessly to manage construction schedules with contractors for painting and reroofing Melville and for grounds maintenance. Later this summer we look forward to creating the path along the east side of Melville and then rebuilding the front entrance stairs to the Museum.

Thank you to Peter Russell, Treasurer and Tom Schiele, Corresponding Secretary, for recording and acknowledging the very generous financial support from all the very loyal VIS members. Thanks also to Ken Campbell who keeps track of VIS investments, to Sam Hackler who has kept us informed about the overall Jaffrey scene and in particular about the new roundabout construction, to Alex Bird who keeps us informed about the Monadnock Inn's future, and to Rick Stein, our bicycle roving ambassador who keeps us up to date with neighborhood news, about potential conservation easements, and many photos. Dan Wilfrid and Bill Graf have plied their carpentry skills to Centennial Park tables, road signs, and other repair jobs around Jaffrey Center.

This past year, Allison Georgopoulos and I have worked many hours to recreate the VIS web site, JCVIS.org, and a face book page. While we still have tweaking to do to it, it is up and running. A huge amount of gratitude goes to Allison for her prodigious work, and to son Zander

and husband Jimmy for their assistance. Also, I thank Sean Driscoll who for many years has managed our web site.

After being willing for years to store VIS paraphernalia in their barn, the Pokornys now need the space as they move much of the contents of their Boston home to Jaffrey. The VIS is very appreciative of the Pokornys' hospitality over the years. The VIS has now moved its Christmas tree and party items to shelving in the FCiJ garage in accordance with an agreement in 2019 to share resources and space. The VIS has purchased shelving for the Parish House garage both for VIS items and also for FCiJ items. The Rev. David Felton continues to have use of the Stevens Horseshed for parking in the winter, and FCiJ has had use of the Horsesheds for worship services and the Children's Fair without any charge since 2020. The VIS values the opportunity to collaborate with FCiJ in ways that are mutually beneficial to each.

I have had very productive meetings with Todd Croteau, Superintendent of Highways & Facilities of the Jaffrey Department of Public Works, about several long-term capital improvement projects for the VIS. Plans are in the discussion stage for: a different way of lighting up the exterior of the Melville Academy Museum; improved parking for visitors to the museum and other open spaces; a restored walk way along Meetinghouse Road; and improved road grading along Blackberry Lane and Laban Ainsworth Way.

Future capital improvement projects include repairs and repainting of the back of the Horsesheds and addressing the protection of contents of the museum from weather conditions, as well as creating signage for various key places in Jaffrey Center to provide illustrations for an updated walking tour of this historic community.

Melville news: Ann Royce is responsible for another big accomplishment this year – she has curated the VIS postcard collection. They are now individually sleeved in a notebook with citations for each. These will eventually be entered into the museum's acquisition data base. Thank you, Ann!

Alex Bird has been very helpful hanging pictures and figuring out how to display the bronze hand of Abraham Lincoln that Skip Cornelius gave to the museum.

The Greene family has given the VIS permission to scan ten watercolors and two pastels of Ann Bancroft Greene, known as Nan Greene to her grandson Sam Greene, for future use and display in the museum. Ron Yantis of Inkberry in Surry, NH has done this work for the museum.

Another acquisition for the museum is an ice tea silver plate tankard that was a wedding gift to Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Greene from Ladies Benevolent Society, Jaffrey, June 1885. Polly McDonough brought this to us on July 24th this summer. She and her husband visited the museum in the summer of 2019 and thought that this would be the right place for this treasure. She also gave the museum a large Hannah Davis box that her sister restored.

Bob Warfield, Virginia and Robert Warfield's son, has been consulting with the VIS and other local groups about finding a suitable local place to display and store the large collection of birds his parents carved and painted. It would be wonderful eventually to be able to display several in the museum, along with other works of other local crafts people and artists.

Melville will have been open for 9 weekends this year with 15 hosts: Skip Cornelius, Sharon Epple and Carol Schaab, Betsy and David Trimble, Sally Keller, Suze and Ken Campbell, Kathy and Bill Weible, Bob Kyte, Nancy Elder-Wilfrid and Dan Wilfrid, Dick Boutwell, Anne and Cassius Webb, and Dorothy and Dave Davis. Thank you all.

On the horizon is the 250th Anniversary of Jaffrey. Various committees are busy imagining projects to make this a very memorable celebration. In addition to accomplishing our various capital improvements by 2023, the VIS will plan special programs.

Looking ahead to the next year and the future of the VIS, I am contemplating the many changes the VIS must face to stay relevant and viable as an organization. The evolution of communications, technology and community demographics present huge challenges for the Board of Directors and VIS members to consider. What remains comfortable for us as a group used to "old fashioned" ways of doing things, versus an imperative for us as people in transition trying to maintain a viable organization – that is a major theme for the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted, Suze Campbell, President of the VIS and Curator, Melville Academy Museum



REPORTS OF VICE PRESIDENTS

REPORT OF GROUNDS AND LANDSCAPING: BRUCE HILL

All of the VIS grounds survived the winter well and greened up nicely in the spring. One large dead tree came down on the Blacksmith Lot and was removed. Our orange reflective marker sticks were effective at keeping traffic off the Harkness Triangle. The abundance of rain this year has preserved our lawns in spite of no fertilization.

We are mulling over some options for enhancements on the Harkness Triangle as we plan for engaging in the Jaffrey 250th Anniversary Jubilee in 2023. Some possibilities are a wildflower garden circle, an information kiosk, a bench or two, and creating a couple parking spaces.

For the spring cleanup, volunteers cut and piled a large amount of brush at Centennial Park, painted the handrail, and pruned shrubs. The benches were set out and have been enjoyed by visitors to Centennial and Cutter Parks. We engaged Potter Tree Service to chip the brush pile leaving us a good pile of wood chips for future mulching.

We continue to develop plans for a pathway at Melville Museum and hope to see this completed before snow flies.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Hill – VP for Grounds

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS REPORT: RICK STEIN

The VIS easements were inspected, and VIS identification signs replaced as needed in autumn 2020. Our easements evolve with predictable new growth and natural blow-downs, and remain intact.

A desirable long range goal (where possible) is eventually to "connect" existing easements to enable future adjacent routes from one easement to the next; (creating alternatives to walking on and along roadways).

Please let us know if you are interested, or would like more information on creating a partial conservation easement on your property.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Stein VP for conservation Easements

VP AT LARGE: SAM HACKLER

Dear Fellow Members:

There have been many questions concerning the status of the Jaffrey Roundabout Project. My report this year hopefully answers the questions of "Hopes or Fear" regarding the project schedule and viability.

According to the Town of Jaffrey, on June 30, 2021 the New Hampshire Executive Council took it up as #84 on the docket.

The Council approved this project with a vote of 5-0. This vote authorizes the final design and Rights of Way to be sent to the Bureau of Highway Design to enter into an agreement with the firm Vanasse Hangen Brustlin of Bedford, NH. This design of improvements to US 202 with NH 124 and NH 137 in Jaffrey is not to exceed \$2,162,892.27. Effective upon G&C (Guidance and Control) approval subject to a deadline of September 30, 2023. This additional portion of the project will be paid for with 100% Federal Funds.

This final planning portion of the project will satisfy necessary acquisitions expected, rights of way and construction easements. This phase is to be completed by Sept. 30, 2023. Immediately following this date, the bid process will begin; after all bids are received the State will award the contract. Construction should begin in the Spring of 2024.

The project is expected to last up to two years for completion.

In summary, the project is moving along, though slowly. It appears that all funding is complete; with State and Federal monies. No funds are expected from the Town of Jaffrey.

I believe that the newly-designed Down Town area of Jaffrey will benefit enormously from this construction - allowing Jaffrey a new beginning: supporting higher property values, creating new commerce, creating jobs and providing a much safer environment for ALL residents of the "Town of Mount Monadnock". Truly a WIN-Win!!

Respectfully submitted, Sam Hackler - VP at Large

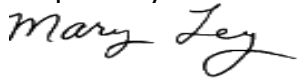
REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY, MARY LEY

In the past year, the JCVIS Board of Directors met both virtually via Zoom and in person. The BOD meetings were as follows:

- September 24, 2020 –In person at Melville Academy
- October 15, 2020 – In person at Melville Academy
- Correspondence via email November and December planning the Tree Lighting/Caroling Event
- Jan 28, 2021 – Zoom
- March 18, 2021 – Zoom
- April 22, 2021 – Zoom
- May 20, 2021 – In person at Melville Academy
- June 17, 2021 – In person at Melville Academy
- July 15, 2021 – In person at Melville Academy

Minutes for the BOD meetings are available on request.

Respectfully submitted,


**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND SLATE FOR 2021-2023**

This year, due to the COVID-19 interruption of the usual cycle of transitions to the slate, people are going to stay in their positions until such time as changes become necessary. The slate is therefore as follows:

Elected in 2020 to terms expiring at the 2022 annual meeting were:

Peter Russell	Treasurer
Mary Ley	Recording Secretary
Alex Bird	VP for Events
Bruce Hill	VP for Grounds and Landscaping

The slate to be elected today to serve from the 2021 to the 2023 Annual Meeting:

Suze Campbell	President
Tom Schiele	Corresponding Secretary
Sam Hackler	VP at Large
Sam Greene	VP for Buildings
Rick Stein	VP for Conservation Easements



THE YEAR AHEAD

Mark your calendars:

December 6 Lighting the tree on the Common and Caroling

April 3 Welcome Spring Dinner at East Hill Farm

Summer 2022 Joint VIS Event with Steve and Pauline Brackett, date TBA

Summer 2022 2023 VIS Annual Meeting and Centennial Park Picnic, date TBA

250th Anniversary of founding of Jaffrey: there will be many events you won't want to miss

THE VIS YEAR IN REVIEW

The Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society's (JCVIS) 2020-2021 year has indeed been one of "Aspirations, Actions, and Accomplishments," the theme I set for the coming year in my report a year ago. We have continued to dream about big goals for the VIS, and while we have not been able to do much of our usual socializing, we have still managed to be very active accomplishing a great deal of deferred maintenance. The Covid-19 pandemic continues to alter our behaviors but it has not brought VIS activity to a halt.

LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING WAS HELD OUTSIDE ON AUGUST 23, 2020 AT THE HORSESHEDS. The highlight of the meeting was Bruce Hill's presentation to the VIS of a plaque to be placed at Melville Academy Museum near the path that will be constructed to make an easier access for visitors to the museum.



Bruce Hill displayed the plaque honoring Suze and Ken Campbell. It will go on a stone on the path to be built at Melville. Work will begin to construct this path late this year.



Suze Campbell, VIS President 2012-2018 & 2019-



Ken Campbell, VIS President 2007-2012.

Ken and I were very pleased and proud to receive this honor in appreciation of our work on behalf of the VIS. Suze Campbell



Pam Hill made VIS horse logo cookies for the occasion and we had refreshments following the meeting.



A masked audience sits for Annual Meeting.

ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2020, INSPIRED BY THE VIS ANNUAL MEETING, FIRST CHURCH IN JAFFREY (FCIJ) BEGAN OUTDOORS WORSHIP SERVICES AT THE HORSESHEDS as a way of contending with COVID protocols of social distancing and wearing masks. The weather cooperated very well and the congregation was very eager to get together once again. The Horsesheds made a perfect home away from its home in the Sanctuary.

Initially FCiJ borrowed the sound system belonging to the Jaffrey Historical Society. FCiJ and the VIS decided it would be practical to share a similar sound system of our own. Bruce Hill with Steve Jackson's advice purchased a sound system which is now kept safely at FCiJ.



Minister of Music Gene Faxon set up his keyboard in the Horsesheds.



Rev. David Felton spoke to the First Church's congregation at the first outdoor Horsesheds service, September 6, 2020.



It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, GATHERING AGAIN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, A LARGE GROUP OF VIS AND FCIJ PEOPLE SET OUT TO BEAUTIFY JAFFREY CENTER.



Betsy Feiker, Janet Grant and Joan Epro, a masked choir outside



Roy Lake, Peter Russell, Bruce Hill, Marcia Breckenridge, Ken Campbell, Jack Minter, Stef Minter, Dick Ames, Heather Ames, Eric Healy, Aaron Abitz, Courtney Cotner and Cedar were part of the VIS Clean-Up.

Teams of volunteers accomplished a lot on this year's annual Fall Cleanup, working from the Horsesheds to Centennial Park.



This year we continued to combine our efforts to include First Church grounds in the Fall Clean Up: Heather Ames, Roy Lake, Lisa Bostnar Jackson, and Marcia Breckenridge weeded and pruned the Parish House/driveway gardens.



American Gothic imitators Alex Bird and Rick Stein posed with their rakes before raking leaves at Centennial Park



Many boxes of pizza were eaten at noon.



Bruce Hill wielded the bucket on his tractor to spread wood chips in Centennial Park.



Tree-men Peter Russell, Dick Ames and Eric Healy cleaned up the Swale by carrying heavy logs uphill to the roadside to be picked up later.



Suze Campbell and Bruce Hill confer back at the Horsesheds about logistics for the day.

NOVEMBER 29 WAS THE NEXT BIG VIS EVENT WHEN WE DECORATED THE CHRISTMAS TREE ON THE COMMON, PREPARING FOR THE ANNUAL CAROLING AND LIGHTING OF THE TREE.



Peter Russell, Janet Grant, Ken Campbell, and Rick Stein.



Rick Stein, Peter Russell, Janet Grant, and Ken Campbell wound the lights around and around the tree purchased from and delivered by Windswept Mountains View Christmas Tree Farm in Richmond, NH.



The light of the full moon and the tree lights made the Meetinghouse Common sparkle.



Dusk on the Meetinghouse Common on November 29.



ON THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 6, PEOPLE PARADED DOWN THE PATH PLOWED BY JIM PICKFORD TO THE TREE. For the second year in a row, snow came early.



Rick Stein, Ken Campbell and Steve Jackson set up the newly purchased sound system that the VIS shares with FCiJ.



The children and their mini ice carolers glowed in the sunset.



Carolers listened to special music of FCiJ choir members singing carols, recorded by Steve Jackson and played over the new sound system.



These ice carolers didn't want to leave.



A choir of children built mini statues around the Christmas Tree.

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A YEAR OF MANY TRANSITIONS, NOT JUST FROM WINTER TO SPRING, BUT ALSO FROM LONG TIME RESIDENTS MOVING AWAY AND NEW RESIDENTS MOVING INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH THE VIS.



A lone snowman stands watch over Cutter Park. The flag at half-mast reminds us of the loss of so many to the COVID-19 virus, also many public figures throughout the year, and most especially the number of VIS members who have departed this year. Tom Schiele faithfully lowers the flag upon receiving notice from the state.

One of the best transitions for the neighborhood has been the rescue of the 1790 house at 370 Main Street, formerly the residence of Lloyd and Kathleen Robinson. New owners Steve and Pauline Brackett are lovingly and carefully restoring it after it stood vacant for nine years. We are looking forward to a joint VIS & Brackett event with them at their house next summer. *(See picture to the right.)*

SPRING IS ANNOUNCED IN JAFFREY CENTER WHEN THE DAFFODILS BLOOM AT MELVILLE.



A view of the area where a path will be built from the northeast corner of Melville Academy Museum by the road diagonally to southeast corner of the building. Work is planned to begin late this summer.



Kathleen and Lloyd Robinson's house now owned by Steve and Pauline Brackett.

ON MAY 14, A DPW CREW ARRIVED with a front end loader and dug out the huge rocks at the front of each stall.



Ever since the Horsesheds were built in 1810 for church-goers to stable their horses and buggies before attending worship services in the Meetinghouse, rocks have bulged out of the ground. Perhaps horses and buggies never minded, but the rocks have made use of the Horsesheds for the First Church's Children's Fair and other activities very awkward. Todd Croteau of the Jaffrey DPW agreed to have DPW workers dig them out for us.



Nick Ellis of the DPW brought 3 cubic yards of dirt to fill in the holes, raking the Horsesheds floors smooth.

ON MAY 15, FOR SPRING CLEAN UP, a huge group of volunteers tackled many projects around Jaffrey Center, first taking the park benches out of the Horsesheds and placing them on the Cutter Park and Centennial Park lawns, and then proceeding to other tasks.



One crew, Stephanie Plent Denman, Peter Russell, Pepper Denman, Jinnie Russell, and Tom Schiele, went across Mountain Road to the Morgan lot to prune the lilacs.



Another crew, Steve Brackett, Chris Reid, Pauline Brackett and Sally Keller painted the Centennial Park wood and metal fences.



Claire Bean filled the Centennial Park barrel with a handsome spring display.



A new picnic table joined the others in Centennial Park.



The Bracketts approved of our long time desire to cut out brush from the back of the 370 Main Street property in order to improve the view of the Swale and Mt. Monadnock from Centennial Park and Main Street.



Meanwhile, back at the Horsesheds, Alisa and David Nash cleared out leaves that had collected there over the winter.



Steve Brackett, Dick Ames, and Ken Campbell contemplate what to do next to improve the view.



Dan Wilfrid and Alex Bird scraped and painted the fascia boards on the Horsesheds.



Sam Greene, both a VIS VP and an FCiJ Trustee, looks over the properties, and manages the logistics for roof and steeple repairs on both Melville Academy Museum and First Church.



David Bliss, Roy Lake, Marcia Breckenridge, Sharon Epple, Carol Schaab, and Heather Ames tended to the Parish House gardens and lawns.



Keeping views open to Mt. Monadnock is an important mission of the VIS. The view through the Swale to the Mountain was much improved this spring, thanks to the Spring Clean Up crew. A large pile of brush was created and Greg Potter was hired to grind it up, leaving wood chips to be spread around at the Fall Clean Up.



**AFTER A HARD MORNING'S WORK,
VOLUNTEERS GATHERED TO RELAX AND ENJOY
THE TRADITIONAL PIZZA PICNIC LUNCH IN
CENTENNIAL PARK.**



Well-behaved dogs and owners are welcome in the park.



Sam Greene and Alex Bird, both VIS VPs, pose for VIS photographer.



Heather and Dick Ames, Roy Lake and Marcia Breckenridge in deep conversation.



Janet Grant shows David Bliss a box full of pizza for him to sample.



David Bliss, Tom Schiele, Stephanie and Pepper Denman, Alisa and David Nash, and Ken Campbell at pizza debate table.



Steve Brackett, Dan Wilfrid, Pauline Brackett, Sally Keller, Jack Minteer, Rick Stein finish pizza.

ON JULY 4TH, 2021 FOR THE 21ST ANNUAL READING OF THE DECLARATION, WE WERE BACK IN THE MEETINGHOUSE.



Regulars at annual July 4th celebrations at the Meetinghouse are Bill Raymond, Bernie and Louise Watson who welcome guests with music to open the ceremonies.



It was good to be back inside the Meetinghouse again this year, after last year's virtual ceremonies, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Masks were not required.



Long time attendees: Dave Kemp, Sean Driscoll, Rob Stephenson, and Joe Manning



THE VIS TRIED SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR FOR THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL – Station 16 brought cups of three flavors of ice cream to the Horsesheds and served it to the long line of people who gathered in front right after the Meetinghouse ceremonies.



The 1931 Seagrave fire engine. Everyone missed Bill Driscoll this year



People chat while they wait for ice cream.



Allison and Zander Georgopoulos enjoy ice cream while dad Jimmy chats with Rick Stein. Becky Newton stands in the background. The VIS is most grateful to Allison who recreated our new web site: JCVIS.org

Station 16's Dupuis Family



Janet Grant supervises the ice cream line.



Anne Webb, Peter Davis, Elizabeth Webb, and her dad, Cassius Webb, with Betsy Trimble and Patty Scholl in the background, chatting after eating their ice cream.

GREG MOORE BEGAN WORK ON JUNE 29 IN 90 DEGREE HEAT TO PUT A NEW ROOF ON MELVILLE ACADEMY MUSEUM.



Greg stands between his brother Sam to the left and Jim, his father, to the right, as they begin to put scaffolding up on the west side of the building.



Heavy equipment including a 40' lift was necessary to do the re-roofing.



Greg Moore and Ethan McBrien, muddy and tired after a long day's work.



Half inch plywood is taken to the roof by the lift at 1:20 PM on June 29. The west side of Melville's roof was finished July 1 before torrential rains arrived the next day.



It was necessary to strip off two layers of roofs, last done in the 1990s, and it was then discovered that the surface needed to have half-inch plywood installed. When Greg discovered this, torrential rain was predicted for the next day.



Unfortunately, rain significantly hampered the progress of the project as well as causing the heavy equipment to sink into the Melville lawn, leaving great ruts. Greg and Ethan partially repaired this damage.



Greg Moore's view from the roof of Melville Academy Museum.



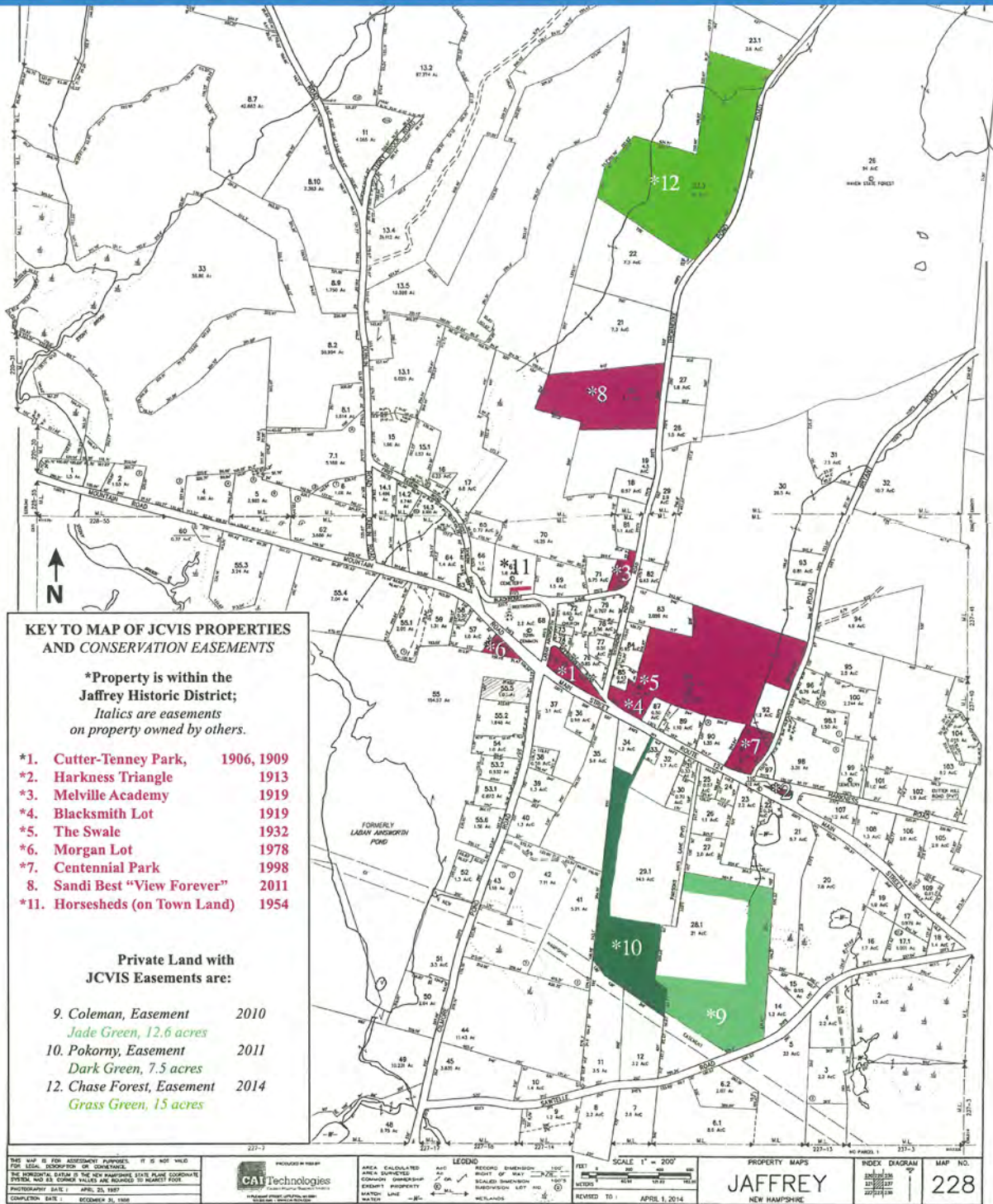
Scaffolding moved to the east side of the building after many delays due to torrential rain.



The east side roof was finished on July 17. The opening of the museum was postponed until the weekend of July 11.

MAP OF VIS PROPERTIES AND EASEMENTS

NORTH ↑



SOUTH ↓

