

New sign to commemorate history of Maynard mill

By Holly Camero
hcamero@wickedlocal.com

MAYNARD — The mill has been part of Maynard for 173 years and will soon be recognized with a permanent interpretive sign that highlights its long history in town.

Jack MacKeen, chairman of the Maynard Historical Commission, told selectmen last week that the commission has put up historical markers on other properties in town, but soon realized it would be impossible to include a history of the mill on a 9 by-12 inch sign.

“So we’ve undertaken a significant effort to put in place a permanent marker covering a time line of the mill,” he said.

As part of Maynard’s sesquicentennial celebration, the Historical Commission is working to construct and install a professionally designed marker that will highlight the history, people and products of the mill, MacKeen said. The linear installation, consisting of three panels that will total



Pictured is the current draft of the first three panels of the planned installation to be located close to the Mill complex at Ken Olsen Plaza in Maynard. [COURTESY/MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION]

about 13 feet wide and 4 feet long, will have information on the front and back. The signs will be placed on town property, close to the mill, on the Walnut Street side of the Ken Olsen plaza.

The signs are UV-protected and the vendor guarantees them for 10 years, McKeen

added.

The total project will cost just under \$12,500, he said, and is being funded by the Historical Commission budget for fiscal 2020 and 2021, gifts from the Kenney family, the Ellen Duggan gift fund, the Maynard Sesquicentennial Committee, the Maynard Rotary Club,

members of the Historical Commission and the DEC Connection Alumni group.

Public contributions are also being sought. All contributions will be acknowledged on the marker.

The Board of Selectmen approved the sign and also made a \$500 donation from

their community event fund.

Contributions, in any amount, will be accepted until Sept. 15, MacKeen said. Donors should send a check to Maynard Historical Commission, 195 Main St., Maynard, MA 01754. Mill Marker Fund should be put on the memo line.