

Becket 250th Anniversary Committee Minutes

January 12, 2015

I. Call to order

Becket 250th Anniversary Committee (Committee) began the meeting at approximately 4:18 P.M. in the Becket Town Hall. Numerous Committee members met before the meeting to assemble geo-tour passports for the BWS students.

II. Roll call

The following Committee members were present: Linda Bacon, Rita Furlong, Bruce Garlow, Sandi Jarvis, Karen Karlberg, Barb Roberts and Ann Spadafora; guest Dan Berg, YMCA camps representative

III. Open issues

- A. Minutes – Jan. 5, 2015 discussion, motion to accept as edited, seconded, passed unanimously
- B. Financial report – no new bills
- C. Historic Geo-tour with students, new date June 8, Monday, all day, picnic lunch
 1. Sandi is preparing 2-3 paragraph historic information sheets for each location, docents can use all or none of the information as they see fit, 20-25 minutes at each location, 4 rotation stations, teachers will be with students, will try to have 2 docents at each location
 2. Need volunteers – male and female, room mothers, PTO, C.O.A.
 - a. Bruce volunteered for the Town Hall civics portion
 - b. Karen would like to do outside locations
 - c. Rita would like to do the Mullen House
 - d. Kathy and Nancy at Becket Athenaeum, need to know new date
 3. BWS prior to geo-tour provide classroom teachers with:
 - a. Jar with 250 red/black beans, replace 8, 9 or 10 with white beans depending on grade level, Athenaeum may want to display a jar?
 - b. Historic facts, puzzles, coloring pages, vocabulary (Grange, VFW, quarry, mill, flume, monument, granite, silk, grist, charcoal, kiln, basketry, parade ground, town common, town hall, wars-Revolutionary, Civil, 1812, modern wars/conflicts Korea Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan), compare present buildings with their former uses
 - c. Follow-up activities for teachers and students, packet of information covered during the day, promote 250 activities
 4. BWS - start with 250 foot rope to depict 250 years, mark each decade, 200 foot white clothes line, last 50 years different color to mark

grandparent/parent /student generations, 20/20/10 years; could add different color rope to beginning for early settlement before incorporation?

5. Index cards on table – write down activity ideas, plan of action, initial your card, Dress up in period costumes (also Memorial Day), written schedule for students, themes “A Quest to find our history” “Recycle” [Already have H.O.O.T. on passports, History Of Our Town]
 - a. Seminary Hall/Arts Center gym - Map of Becket with neighborhood schools; where would you have gone to school? Why would they have so many small, local schools? (Capeless former school, YMCA Road, Wade Inn Road) History of consolidation in North Becket, cupola; Crafts of 1775 (candle making How & Why? Basket making; why were baskets used? Sewing); Barb talk about her education in Becket, Miss Mullen; art project, printing; cardboard box models of historic buildings on floor map
 - b. Mullen House/Quarry Museum – have a student read Hope Leonard’s 3rd grade paper on granite; Rita family history with the pink granite quarry; Turner diary, transportation, evolution of town
 - c. Athenaeum – library cards; what type of media would you find in the library? In 1775 antique piano in loft, books, newspapers; In 2016 books, newspapers, videos, DVD’s, guitar, keyboard, laptops, computers ; recycled building-1st Church, Grange, Athenaeum; silk spool in history room, dinosaur print, alligator
 - d. Ballou Park Silk Mill/Grist Mill/Lumber Mill, grist mill area across bridge on Prentice Place Barb’s grandfather; silk spools, Indian grinding stone or from grist mill; veteran monuments; railroad; Ballou Dam
 - e. Parade Ground – drummer setting cadence for marching drills, town common, stone walls, clearing land
 - f. Cemetery 1757, early families (Snow, Ballou), Vault at North Becket; encourage further exploration of former school house on YMCA Rd, store cellar hole, Brewster House; horse/carriage sheds
 - g. First Congregational Church – bell, tin walls/ceilings
 - h. Guild Hall and Pound – former town hall, use of Pound
 - i. From bus - Silk Mill site, Vault, North Becket school building, etc.
6. Schedule Revised – change order, start at Becket Center (or Town Hall)
 - a. 8:45-9:00 introduction, 250 year rope activity with 3, 4, & 5 graders outside BWS (if available Bidwell Park?)
 - b. 9:00 on bus to Becket Center (or Town Hall)
 - c. 9:10-10:30 tour 20 minutes each:
 1. Parade Grounds and First Meeting Place monument
 2. First Congregational Church

- 3. Becket Center Cemetery and horse sheds
 - 4. Guild Hall and Pound
 - d. 10:30-10:40 bus to Town Hall (or Becket Center)
 - e. 10:40- 11:10 30 minute tour of Town Hall, town government/civics, present day, grades 3, 4 & 5 together, Bruce
 - f. 11:10-11:30 restroom break
 - g. 11:15-11:45 Lunch at Pavilion/Becket Center Park (or Parade Grounds)
 - h. 11:45 Bus to North Becket, Cultural Council grant for 3 hours
 - i. 11:55- 1:35 tour 25 minutes each:
 - 1. Mullen House
 - 2. Arts Center
 - 3. Becket Athenaeum
 - 4. Ballou Park and Silk Mill ruins
 - j. 1:35-2:50 Pull it all together, grade level geocache activity to find their trinkets, approve passports, promote further exploration, return to BWS
 - k. **OR** 1:50-2:50 writing 10/40/10 in classrooms
7. Pound geocache is posted online also 250th is given credit
- D.** Paper record for geocache challenge recommended by Sandi rather than wooden coins at each cache location; easier and less costly to keep track of qualifiers for Oct. 1 drawing; example from:
<https://www.geocaching.com/play/geotours/helena-montana> and
<http://www.floridastateparks.org/thingstodo/location-based/doc/tracking-sheet.pdf>
- E.** Publicity - Sandi shared new rack cards with the Committee to spread in the community, available at Town Hall, Post Office, Athenaeum and stores among others
- F.** History Book
- 1. Donations to Becket and Berkshire Athenaeums, Rita requested 2 for Historical Commission; Bruce political dignitaries who come to our June 21st dedication
 - 2. \$25.05 to have a book mailed
 - 3. Invoices available at Town Hall Office
- G.** Camp Chimney Corners June 6
- 1. DJ is a go, Art Center 2-5 PM
 - 2. Next meeting Dan will have a schedule and a map
 - 3. Camp can accommodate Allison LaValley's pony rides
- H.** Avenue banners Dan reported on requirements and pricing, banners good for about 3 years, hardware can be used over again
- 1. Town building inspector will wave \$30 per banner fee
 - 2. Road work highway permit from state
 - 3. Northeast Utilities notify which poles Committee would like to use
 - 4. Bennington VT Company will take install/ take down, Dan will get back on cost

5. Tidmore Flags-12 banners with hardware about \$1700, 24 with hardware a little over \$3,000
 6. Locations at entering Becket signs – Lee Rt. 20, Chester Rt. 20, Washington Rt. 8, Otis Rt. 8 South, Algeria Rd.
 7. Design with official Becket 250th logo, next meeting discuss wording, cost
- I. **Flag**
1. Previous discuss-only voted to remove “Celebrating 250 years”
 2. Can flags be used for geocache prizes? \$70 a flag, 2 flags already sold
 3. Motion” Order additional flags with the Becket 250th Anniversary logo including “Becket, Massachusetts Celebrating 250 Years, 1765-2015” at a cost of approximately \$404.” Seconded, passed
- IV. **New Business** –
1. Ann Krawet requested she be added to the musical line-up at Jacob’s Pillow, she has spoken with the Bacon’s who have added her performance, cabaret singer
- V. **Next Meeting**

Monday February 2, 2015

Becket Room, Town Hall 4 P.M.

Thank you for your continued attendance and support of this Committee!

VI. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 P.M.

Submitted by: Sandi Jarvis, Thank you