

# Becket 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Minutes

July 6, 2015

## I. Call to order

Becket 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee (Committee) began the meeting at approximately 4:01 P.M. in the Becket Town Hall.

## II. Roll call

The following Committee members were present: Linda Bacon, Rita Furlong, Bruce Garlow, Sandi Jarvis, Karen Karlberg, Barb Roberts, George Roberts and Ann Spadafora

## III. Open issues

### A. Minutes –

1. June 18, 2015 discussion, motion to accept, seconded, passed unanimously
2. June 1 revise title to “Democratic Town Committee”: Section C subsections 1 & 3

### B. Discussed thank you

1. Print ¼ fold note on good printer
2. OR Print in letter form
  - a. Use good card stock for letter and matching envelopes
  - b. Write names on letters or remove “To” line, type recipients names on envelopes
  - c. 250<sup>th</sup> stickers to use as return address on envelopes
  - d. Worked on missing names, addresses
  - e. Town will supply postage?
  - f. Motion: “To pay printing bill for thank-you notes.” Seconded, passed unanimously
  - g. Motion: “To allow Barbara Roberts to use her best judgment to put together something that looks nice and prints cleanly.” Discussion.

### C. Discussed 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee certificates presented by Selectman Jeanne Pryor at Tree Planting June 21

1. Thank you to the Selectmen for their kind words
2. Bev will mail Michel Paul Richards to him

### D. Discussed bill submissions

1. Jacob’s Pillow printing, pole banners
2. Fireworks paid

### E. Financial report – all bills except one have been paid

### F. Flags –

1. Need to locate both the “Incorporated” and “Celebrating 250<sup>th</sup>” flags
2. Rita received a request for a flag, several Committee members are interested
3. Cost \$67.70, make check out to Town of Becket
4. Motion: “Move to sell flags that say “Incorporated” for \$67.70.” Discussion, seconded, passed unanimously

### G. Becket Athenaeum staff is interested in 250<sup>th</sup> commemorative items for History Room

1. Bruce and Sandi will donate 250<sup>th</sup> buttons

2. Rita and Sandi will collect items
- H. Wooden nickels will be stored in Historical Commission room
  1. To be distribution as needed
  2. George had a request for 12 coins
- I. Geocache
  1. Went well despite cold temperatures and rain
  2. Thanks to Rita for supplying hot drinks and paper goods
- IV. **New Business**
  - A. Bruce attended Richmond's 250<sup>th</sup> , shared their program
  - B. Discussed migrating Becket250.org to the Town site, Karen will follow-up
  - C. Asked Committee members to write a short bio [one or two paragraphs] to include in records for Historical Commission and History Room at the Athenaeum; see below
- V. **Next Meeting** Ann will organize a get-together in mid September [10 or 17]

***No More Committee Meetings Scheduled!***

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

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:55 P.M.

Submitted by: Sandi Jarvis, Thank you

## **Becket 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Members**

**Linda Burgess Bacon** is owner and manager of Canterbury Farm, a bed and breakfast and ski touring center in Becket. Living in town for most of her life, she raised two sons with her husband. She has had an active role on many town committees: chairperson of the Becket Cultural Council, the recreation department, homework helper program, and a library trustee in addition to being a member of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Her passion is figure skating having skated and won National events, coached in the local area for years, and now is a Gold level judge traveling across the country.

**Rita Frisbie Furlong** I was born and educated in Becket, graduated in the first Wahconah Regional High school class in 1962, received a B.S. and a M.S Degree from Westfield State College. I taught elementary grades in the Central Berkshire Regional School District for thirty five plus years and retired in 2007. I've been church organist since I was fourteen at the First Congregational church here in Becket. Presently I am Church Historian and President of the Ladies' Guild. My husband Richard, former Town of Becket Administrator, and I raised our three children here in our home on YMCA Road.

Helping to further develop the parks and beach here in town has been a goal of mine. Preserving Becket's history and stone walls has led me to serve this town for many enjoyable years.

I am serving on or have served on the following town of Becket Committees and Boards: Becket Historical Commission, Parks and Recreation Committee, Open Space Committees, Community Development Plan Committee, Becket Charity Fund, Becket Scholarship Committee, Mullen House Education Center Board of Directors, Becket Land Trust Board of Directors, Chairman of the Becket Town Hall Building Committee, and member of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

**Bruce A. Garlow** is the retired Richmond, MA town administrator and conservation administrator and longtime elected moderator in his hometown of Becket, MA He has served on many community and professional committees and boards in Berkshire County and statewide, including in leadership positions with the Small Town Administrators of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Moderators Association and Berkshire Advisory Committee to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD), and is a past recipient of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions' Conservation Administrator of the Year Award. Other memberships have included the MCAD State Advisory Board, Berkshire Regional Housing Authority, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Central Berkshire Fund Advisory Committee, Massachusetts Municipal Association's Environmental Policy Committee, Becket Town Meeting Bylaw Review Committee, Becket Democratic Town Committee and Becket 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. He's a member of the board of directors of WAM Theatre, former columnist for three Berkshire area weekly newspapers, co-author with his brother Tamarack Garlow of a short play, "The Porch", and editor of the book "Becket, Massachusetts: From Colonial Township to Modern Town, 1765-2015."

**Sandra L. Jarvis** was raised in East Longmeadow and taught for 35 years in the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District in the Springfield area. She taught Physical Education, Health, Technology Education [Shop] and Educational Technology [Computers] from kindergarten through adult education. She has a bachelor's degree from UMASS/Amherst

and a master's degree from Lesley College/Cambridge. For many years she coached soccer, basketball, gymnastics and softball.

Since retiring and building a home in Becket in 2006, Sandi has enjoyed her free time volunteering, tracing her family genealogy, travelling, gardening, swimming and boating. She volunteered for the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee to meet other townspeople, become involved in the town, familiarize herself with town history and to help organize the anniversary tribute. Sandi served as the Committee's clerk and photo editor of the book "Becket, Massachusetts: From Colonial Township to Modern Town, 1765-2015." She is also a member of the Becket Historical Commission.

**Karen Karlberg** was born in Boston, grew up in the Berkshires and then graduated from SUNY Plattsburg with a BA in Anthropology/Archeology and Computer Science. She also has degree certificate from UMASS Amherst for Small Business Management, is a Certified Animal Technician and Humane Educator, and a Wildlife Tracker. Karen moved to Becket in 1983 when she met her husband, Mark, while employed as a systems engineer at GE Ordnance in Pittsfield, MA.

Karen is an accomplished artisan and outdoors woman; she enjoys fly-fishing in the Farmington, Westfield and Housatonic Rivers around her home and has ventured across the United States to fish other legendary streams & rivers. Her millinery creations have been sold around the world, under the name of Becket Hat Company. She recently retired from the Berkshire Humane Society as the Community Outreach Coordinator and is pursuing an encore career as a nature photographer and writer.

Along with the Becket 250<sup>th</sup> Committee, Karen has served on other Becket Boards and Commissions including the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Conservation Commission, the Board of Health, the Westfield Wild and Scenic Committee and the Scenic Trails Connectivity Project.

Her menagerie of furry children at her home called, KaTTail Farm, includes two llamas, nine chickens, two dogs and five cats.

**Michel Paul Richard** was born in Staten Island and lived in New York and Washington D.C. before attending the University of Chicago where he received his B.A. and M.A. degrees. He also attended the University of Stockholm Sweden for one year. After military service he worked briefly at the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington D.C. before returning to graduate school for a Ph.D. in sociology, which was awarded by New York University. His teaching career began at Converse College continued at Brooklyn College and Dickinson College, and led to a tenured appointment at the State University of New York (Geneseo campus).

Michel and his wife Peggy have five children between them (all from previous marriages) as well as seven grandchildren. Peggy was a university librarian; after her retirement in South Florida they lived in Becket for ten years but now reside in Great Barrington. Michel's sculpture and paintings can be viewed on his website ([www.MichelPaulRichard.com](http://www.MichelPaulRichard.com)).

**Barbara Crochiere Roberts** has spent most of her life in Becket, where she was born and raised. She and her husband raised their two sons, George and Alfred here. She taught in the Becket Consolidated School as well as Nessacus Middle School. She was a member of the Becket Scholarship Foundation, and on the Board of Trustees of the Becket Athenaeum. She is currently a member of the Becket Democratic Town Committee. She was honored to serve as a member of the 250<sup>th</sup> Becket Anniversary Committee.

**George Roberts** grew up in Becket, a fifth generation Becketite, and attended the Becket Elementary School, Nessacus Middle School, and Wahconah Regional High School. Upon graduation from High School, he served in the United States Navy for 4 years as an Aviation Electronics Technician. After his Naval service he studied at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, where he received a B.A. in English Literature. After college he worked for several years as a para-legal at the law firm Debevoise and Plimpton in New York City before studying Law at Pace University School of Law in White Plains, NY where he was awarded a J.D. After receiving his law degree he worked at Debevoise and Plimpton as a contract attorney for 4 years, before becoming a member of Traveler's Insurance Company's Staff Counsel unit, practicing in offices in Mamaroneck, NY and later Albany, NY. Currently he is serving his 5<sup>th</sup> year as the elected Town Clerk in Becket, as well as being a practicing attorney, Of Counsel, with Hannon Lerner, P.C., in Lee, Massachusetts. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns. George has two children with his deceased wife, Martha E. Asma. Martha was a First Vice President of Marketing of Bayerische Landesbank, at its New York City branch.

**Ann G. Spadafora** Local Real Estate Broker - ANN SPADAFORA REAL ESTATE.

Ann was born, raised and educated in Kent, England. She came to the USA after university to explore the country working as a flight attendant on International routes and a planned 6-month sojourn became a 20 year love affair with travel.

Ann has lived in NYC, later in Westchester, then Stamford, CT and finally fell in love with The Berkshires - settling in Becket in 1973.

Ann has served on various committees in the Town of Becket - the longest being on the Finance Committee and for the past two years on the Becket 250th Anniversary Committee which has been a wonderful learning experience and a lot of fun with some interesting and dedicated people.



Front row (L to R)-Barbara Crochiere Roberts, Linda Burgess Bacon, Karen Karlberg, Rita Frisbie Furlong, and Sandra L. Jarvis  
Back row (L to R)-Bruce A. Garlow, George Roberts, Ann G. Spadafora and Michel Paul Richard