

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Minutes from the 5/22/13 meeting read and accepted as read

TREASURER'S REPORT – cabinets were purchased, we have just a little bit of money left in our account. New fiscal year begins July 1.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Received a letter from a 5th grader in Mrs. Stapleton's class at Forestdale School in Farmington – looking for info on liberty tree/poles in Becket (we have no record of such trees/poles) – Rob will send a reply.
- Rob spoke with a woman who had inquired about Seminary Hall (she sent us email request) and provided information to her.
- Bruce Demarest contacted us regarding an issue he had with his homeowner's insurance – the policy holder said they may not be able to cover his home because it is on a national historic register. Rob inquired with MA Historical, who had heard of such a thing, but never in MA. We will provide additional information and support as needed to Bruce.

OLD BUSINESS

- Rita was successful in deciphering the exact etching on John Glede Jr. tombstone
- Rob copied the document about trains from Leonard Spencer
- There was a discussion about what to do with the large map information signs. Rob and Aaron will endeavor to repair the West Becket and North Becket signs prior to the end of August. We will hire someone to rebuild the Becket Center sign.

NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Reports are now housed in several locations: the Assessor's office has a complete set, the Becket Athenaeum will have a complete set, the Pittsfield Athenaeum will have a complete set, so we will only need to hold on to 1 or 2 copies of each year in our space. (No one has 1973 though).
- Gail is working on transcribing an old document that deals with town lines & getting copies of old maps – in the past, Rob has obtained copies of old maps from various historical county places
- Gail went to an archives conference, mentioned an app in one community that lets you click on a house and see its history
- Aaron mentioned that the town has an interest in purchasing the Athenaeum's building – Rita brought up concerns with trusts that Athenaeum should look in to. Rita moved that Aaron be appointed as the historical commission representative to the subcommittee that is exploring this. Motion was approved unanimously.
- Rita would like to purchase one more 4-tier file cabinet – we may invest in one next fiscal year.
- Rita suggested moving an old voting machine that we recently acquired to the Becket Room
- Rita was thanked for all her hard work in organizing our files and our room lately

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm