

Historical Commission Meeting – June 3, 2014

Present: Aaron Beatty, Jenn Beatty, Rita Furlong, Sandi Jarvis, Gail Kusek

Meeting called to order at 6:32

Minutes from April meeting were read and Rita moved they be accepted with minor edits, Sandi seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – no expenditures

Communications

- Received an email communication from Anne Messenger who wants to be sure her ancestor is included in the obelisk monument. Aaron emailed her back looking for information on who her relative is.
- Rita will send out a notice asking people to send names for Civil War / Rev. War veterans they know of who were Becket residents at the time of their enlistment.
- Roger Peltier gave us a copy of a letter from Leon Ballou to Ms. Pomroy Spencer - the letter is an eyewitness report of the flood
- A Jane (whose last name we did not receive) gave us a Becket bicentennial mug that she found at tag sale
- Tina Sweet gave us a scrapbook with clippings from the Dalton News Record dating back to the mid 1970s with lots of news clippings related to Becket

OLD BUSINESS

- Obelisk – Rita met with Mr. Williams who will be sending a drawing of the proposed obelisk; he believes the money we have set aside should cover the expense of the foundation and the monument and etching. We will be responsible for preparing the site for the foundation. In the fall we will contact the town to see if they can dig the hole and we will see if we can get the concrete donated.
- Directional Signs – Aaron will contact Dave – try to schedule something in July

NEW BUSINESS

- Sandi is volunteering to enter various family history information that people donate/provide in Pittsfield. In doing so, she came across information on Dr. John Milton Brewster and brought us a photocopy of the information.
- Gene Gobel stopped by and there was a lengthy discussion about geocaching, keeping known burial grounds safe, geocaching in general and how we use it for historic informational purposes. The 250th Committee is taking this issue up for Becket's 250th celebration. Gene noted that Longlake, NY did something similar and had a town tour via geocaching. Sandi will send list to Gene of geocaching locations we have asked Select Board to approve.
- Sandi made a motion that the Historical Commission formally approve of the use of geocaches on historic town property for Becket's 250th celebration and beyond. Gail seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- We will discuss additional plans for Becket's 250th celebration at our next meeting: July 1, 2014.
- Aaron and Jenn will contact the bank that owns the Apothecary to see what our options are in terms of either saving the building or salvaging important historic pieces from the building.

Rita moved to adjourn, Jenn seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.