

Historical Commission Meeting – July 1, 2014

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

Meeting called to order 6:36pm

Minutes from the June meeting were accepted with no edits.

Treasurer's Report – we have a new balance of \$700 for FY 2014

Communications – there were no communications

Old Business

- Athenaeum ad hoc committee – nothing to report on to date
- Obelisk for Civil War memorial – plans are being drawn up – Rita is in contact with Chester Quarry about the progress
- Directional Signs – Aaron will contact Dave to develop a plan for the restoration of the directional signs.
- Higley Apothecary Update – Higley Apothecary is part of property at 44 & 43 pleasant st. that is currently listed for sale by Carrington Real Estate – it is a short sale – Jenn spoke to the realtor, who suggested that we provide some history on building (we will use inventory sheet), why it is significant to Becket and potential uses for the property. A discussion ensued about potential uses. Our next step will be to contact Selectmen (whose next meeting is on July 16. Rita will ask them to put us on agenda, Jenn will contact realtor and let her know our intention and put together a small packet of info on the Apothecary (narrative, pictures, etc.). The property has historical significance to Becket and is in dire need of attention.

Discussion about 250th Anniversary Celebration

- Rita and Sandi reported that preparations are going well. There was a broad discussion about events planned, the update to the book about Becket and the search for Becket photos from the last 50 years.

New Business

- Gail brought a notebook of old Becket newspaper clippings and there was a discussion about whether or not we can copy/scan/take pictures of the materials.
- Rita brought up the need the Historical Commission has for a scanner. She suggested that Aaron and Jenn contact Ed Gibson regarding possible help or funds available to acquire one. There was a discussion about other needs including a laptop or computer and an external storage device. Sandi will ask the Athenaeum if they have any recommendations. Rita moved that we allow up to \$500 of our budget toward the purchase of a scanner / external hard drive. Jenn seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Historical Commission info is out of date on the town website; Rita will follow up with Nina.

Rita moved to adjourn the meeting, Sandi seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:32pm