

Becket Historical Commission - June Minutes

June 7th 2016

Present: Jenn, Rita, San and Katherine

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Minutes from last meeting: The minutes were read from May. Correction needed: Sandi emailed the Lowells not Rita. Sandi also noticed a typo (should be: photo). Rita moved we accept the minutes with these corrections and Sandi seconded – passed unanimously

Treasurer's report: No changes since the \$90 expense approved last month did not come to fruition.

Communication:

Old – None

New

Planning board submitted for our review a request from Heather Anello to change the address of her business. No concerns from the commission.

Sandi sent an email to the Lowells regarding the postcard we received. She hasn't received a response as of yet.

The commission members signed the new "Code of Conduct" forms.

Old Business:

Directions signs: Since May's meeting, Jenn received a quote from Windsor Marketing who printed our directional signs originally in 2010. They quoted us the same price we paid before which is significantly cheaper than the local quotes we received. Rita moved we buy 4 signs at this price (2 that we need now and 2 to have on hand if they need replacing). Sandi seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Katherine has continued her amazing work in the commission's room. She has organized and labeled the maps that were rolled behind the door.

New Business:

David Pierce a Railroad expert questioned us regarding an elevation sign wondering if it was from one of the Becket railroad stations. We discussed how we could determine that possibly using Google Maps to determine elevation.

Bob Podolski and family donated logs from a store in North Becket from the 1880s.

21 Maple Street Becket: At the town meeting, residents approved the purchase of this property which was the former Baptist Parsonage. Mistakenly, it was presented as a non-historic property, but does in fact reside inside the Historic District.

Fiscal year 2017 budget was also approved at the town meeting. We have a new budget amount of \$1662.00.

Sandi presented a plan of action for the upcoming year. Included is: publicizing the historical commission, having links to our information on the town and athenaeum websites, surveying the historical properties in town, updating the historic inventory and taking better photos and comparing our information with the state's information, and finally looking at the Becket Demolition bylaw. We delayed discussion of these items until after the summer.

We decided to skip the July meeting as it falls the day after July 4th. The meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

Sandi was contacted by David Cooper who appeared at the Becket 250th as a Civil War Reenactor. He requested copies of 2 of the photo books that Sandi assembled after the event. Again, the commission would like to get an oral history from him, Skip Saville and Izzy Salvani. There is a treasure trove of knowledge!

The Committee decided to not hold a July meeting as the meeting would be the day after July 4th.

Jenn moved to close the meeting at 7:30 and Sandi seconded. The next meeting will be on August 2 at 6 pm.