



Municipal Building – Town of Franklin
355 East Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes July 15, 2008

Attending:

Commissioners:

Alan Earls (Assoc.)
Debbie Pellegri
Bob Percy
Alice Vendetti

Meeting Minutes

The Commission approved the last meeting's minutes, from 6/17/08, as drafted.

Bob P. and Debbie P. agreed to combine forces to create regular monthly meeting agendas. Bob will provide input based on meeting minutes; Debbie will base her input on items we receive by mail.

Commission members are welcome to check the Commission's mail box at the Town Offices, and to notify Commission members of any timely issues before the next meeting.

Membership

At last month's meeting, the Commission unanimously approved full Commission membership for Alan E. The Town Council has yet to confirm him. Debbie P. will inquire as to when this item is likely to appear on the Council's agenda.

Finances

Debbie P. has already received a bill for the packing and preservation materials Del ordered. Bob will check with Lynn at the Recreation Dept. to see if the items have arrived yet.

Projects

Housing Rehab Request

The Town's Housing Rehab Program plans to refurbish the house at 52 McCarthy St. After reviewing the letter of inquiry, and associated photographs, the Commission approved their plans to rehab this historic structure, and will notify the Housing Rehab Program to that effect by mail.

Obtaining 501 (c) 3 Status

A few months back, we had tabled plans to start a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization to promote the interests of things historical in Franklin. Now that the museum's renovation is underway, we would like to explore this again. Resident Herb Hunter may be willing to help us set this up, and help with the accounting part of this effort. Debbie P. will ask if he can attend our next Historical Commission meeting.

Related item: we may wish to have a gift shop in the museum, containing books, maps, and refrigerator magnets. (Perhaps in the foyer, on the left side as you enter.) Debbie P. has on file the name of the man who makes the magnets.

Grants

We appear to have missed this year's deadline for applications for an American Heritage Preservation Grant. We should add this notice to our own annual calendar so we're ready in future years.

Refurbishing the Museum (80 West Central St.)

Five companies have bid to serve as project architect for work on the Museum. Bid deadline was 7/17. Norma Collins understands that the winning candidate must have experience refurbishing museums.



Town Quilt

Marie Daddario wants to give the Commission one of only two quilts that were made during the Town's Bicentennial (1978). She is willing to have the quilt framed. Each square has Town significance. It measures 9'8" vertically and 6'2" horizontally. The Commission will measure the museum walls in order to find the ideal spot for display.

Mannekins

In order to display dresses and uniforms and other apparel properly, the Commission will need some full or partial mannequins. The ideal place to find them: clothing stores that are remodeling or going out of business.

Seasonal Displays

There may be an area of the museum that is ideally suited for seasonal displays: in the main display room, the partially sectioned off area on the left.
