



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

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes December 16, 2008

Attending:

Commissioners:

Del Arnold
Alan Earls
Mona Ghiringhelli
Debbie Pellegrini
Bob Percy

Meeting Minutes

The Commission approved the last meeting's minutes from 11/18/08.

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.

Commission Membership

The Commission received an application from Brian Leite of Franklin for membership on the Historical Commission.

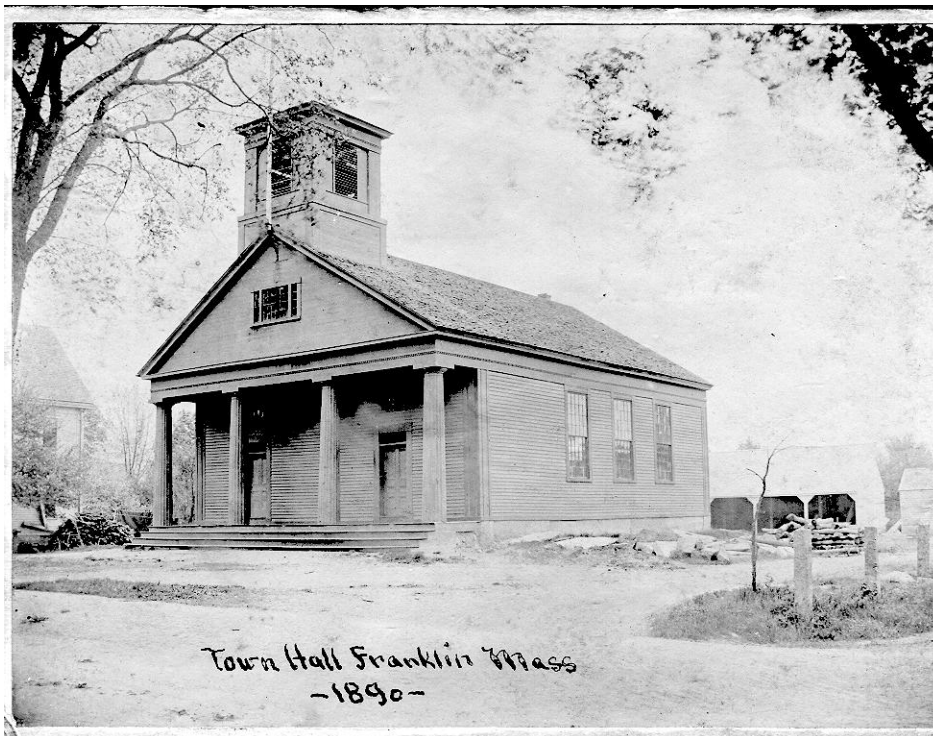
Finances

The Commission voted unanimously to reimburse Alan E. for his expenses (\$300.64) from attending a conference sponsored by NEMA (NE Museum Assoc.) in Warwick, RI Nov. 12 -14.

Projects

Obtaining 501 (c) 3 Status

Mona has been working with accountant Herb Hunter to fill out the application for establishing a non-profit organization to the State. The Commission plans to meet with Herb H. some time in January to discuss some of the details of the application process.



Refurbishing the Museum (80 West Central St.)

Debbie P. suggested having the Commission meet with the architects who will be refurbishing the new museum. The Commission plans to meet with the architect on Thurs., 1/8/09 at 10AM to discuss the details of the interior design. The interior layout design needs to be flexible enough to accommodate a wide variety of uses.

Museum Wish List

Debbie P. was able to locate two mannequins for use in the museum.

Museum Curator

Alan E. is looking into the best way to engage the services of a part-time museum curator, specifically from college programs.

Museum Displays

Debbie P. presented some suggestions for future museum displays:

1. Brick School/school days/blue bench/yearbooks
2. Arrowheads/Indian Rock on Jordan Road
3. Period Clothing/old prom dresses
4. WWI and WW2 Displays/uniforms/Monuments on Common
5. Old Postcards
6. Historic Homes
7. Business, past and present
8. Chilson Movie Nights
9. Town landmarks, Old Morse Theatre, Franklin Furniture, Four Corners School, Piano Factory, Ray Fire Station, Ray School, Oliver Pond House, Town Pool on Panther Way, Town Common.
10. People from our past/lasting impressions/Nathaniel Emmons, Davis Thayer.
11. Benjamin Franklin

Housing Rehab Requests -- None

Demolition Requests – None

Research Requests – None. We still need to draw up a short fee schedule for the various tasks the public can request.

Correspondence

See attached report from Del A. (Addendum A).

Debbie P. received a letter from Richard R. Cornetta, attorney for Bohler Engineering of Southborough, the construction company that plans to build the Walgreens on the site of the Four Corners School building. It states his concerns about possible negative repercussions from the plan to demolish that structure. The Historical Commission plans to send out a letter to all interested parties stating its reasons for allowing the demolition to proceed.

Town Website

Bob P. received training from Virtual Town Hall for maintaining the Commission's website.

Commission Policies Manual

Alan E. has graciously taken on the task of authoring a policies manual that describes the operations of the Historical Commission. This will be a valuable resource for Commission members new and old.

Commission Records

Del A. encouraged Commission members to meet with him at 150 Emmons street to examine the Commission's hardcopy records. Some of these might be appropriate to add to Alan E.'s policies manual.

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