



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

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes March 23, 2010

Attending:

Commissioners

Present:

Del Arnold
Dianne Brunner
Alan Earls
Mona Ghiringhelli
Debbie Pellegrini
Bob Percy

Absent: Alice Vendetti

Visiting:

Marlene Oliver

Note: This “interim meeting” had as its main focus the ways we can prepare and execute the move of the museum from Washington St. to 40 West Central St. As a result, the agenda items represented only a subset of the agenda items we address at our regular meetings on the third Thursday of each month.

Finances

Debbie reported that our budget for the upcoming year (\$3K) has been submitted to the overall town budget.

Last Meeting’s Minutes – approved, as amended (noting that FFHM spent \$90. on checks).

Old Museum

Bob said he would begin looking online for a deed pertaining to the agreement under which the Franklin Federated Church ceded use of the old museum to the Town.

Museum Inventory

We have decided not to obtain the 1948 sewing machine that currently resides in the Thrift Store downtown.

The round table to be placed in the New Library room is being worked on.

The dining table slated for use in the new Victorian Room is being polished.

Museum Move

Debbie enlisted the help of Richard Griffin of the DPW, who has a truck with a hydraulic lift for big items.

Some members requested a copy of the museum key. The subject of security in general was discussed.

Alan will send out a list of volunteers and Commissioner cell phone #s.

We will not attempt to move any items from the supply closet in the old museum. Because of the past rodent issues in that room, it will require special cleaning.

We will move manikins to the main floor, and stage things on the porch of the old museum.

We will meet at 2PM the day before the move, first at the Old Museum, then at the New to discuss the details of the move.

Stationed at the two endpoints will be the following people:

Old Museum

Dianne Brunner
Alan Earls
Eamon McCarthy Earls
Debbie Pellegrini
Bob Percy

New Museum

Del Arnold
Mona Ghiringhelli
Marlene Oliver
Alice Vendetti
Lou and Nick Allevato

Items will enter the rear of the New Museum.

Debbie and Mona will bring coffee and donut holes to the Old and New, respectively.

Museum Opening (May 15, 2010)

The faculty and students of Tri-County have agreed to cater the Museum Opening!

There was some discussion about on which night to hold the pre-opening. We concluded that a Friday night (5/14) pre-opening would flow into next day's public opening, rather than holding the pre-opening on Thursday (5/13).

Invitations to the pre-opening will be extended to addressee and guest.

(This item, carried forward from last mtg.): For the museum, we need to purchase and display the following items:

- a guest book
- a framed picture of Herman Duvall
- a framed picture of Barbara Smith (The Federated Church may have a good photo of her. Mona will contact them.)
- a plaque that summarized the purpose of the museum, in two sentences or so, to hang near the guest book. Bob agreed to draft some words for it.

Friends of the Franklin Historical Museum (FFHM) – No news

Debbie has been in touch with a gentleman who proposed we have a scavenger hunt that involves following clues inside the museum. This would be a great way for people, especially kids, to become familiar with what's in the museum.

Grants -- None

Correspondence – None

Housing Rehab Requests – None

Demolition Requests

Bob will further the process for the demo request from John Colella to tear down the house on 148 Washington St.

We've received no new demo requests.

Research Requests -- None

New Business -- None

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