



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

## Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

### Meeting Minutes June 15, 2010

#### **Attending:**

##### Commissioners

##### Present:

Dianne Brunner  
Marlene Oliver  
Debbie Pellegri  
Bob Percy  
Alice Vendetti

Absent: Del Arnold, Alan Earls, Mona Ghiringhelli

##### Associates

Connie Lawson  
Mary Olsson

#### **Finances**

Nothing to report.

**Last Meeting's Minutes** – Approved, as amended.

#### **Commission Membership**

Bob centralized all Commission folks' contact information, and emailed it to all. Connie L. did not receive it. Bob will investigate.

#### **Commission Rules**

Because of new open meeting laws, our meeting agendas need to be posted on the web at least 48 hours in advance.

## **Museum Operation**

Some items need to be addressed:

- The alarm system
- The video projector. Someone in Mike D'Angelo's group will come to take a look at it. Perhaps that person could attend our next meeting to show us how to operate it.
- We discussed where a "Yesterday's Streets" display could be constructed. The museum (main level, or basement) are not acceptable, due to space constraints. We discussed 150 Emmon St. as being a possible location.
- The state of the museum's textiles is a concern. We discussed having someone from the Fine Arts Museum in Boston come talk to us about how to address restoration and ongoing preservation. Marlene may know someone who can help.
- Other possible needs:
  - a land line telephone for the museum. (Not all hosts may have their own cell phones.) This is a safety issue.
  - One or two coffee urns. (Of the two we had obtained for the opening, one leaked, and the other was too old and large for our needs.)
  - An answering machine.
  - A ready supply of acid-free clothing boxes and acid free tissue paper. Bob mentioned that Gaylord provides these materials. Marlene will investigate Gaylord, and perhaps determine what MFA guidelines might exist in this area.
- The lock on the front door is being fixed so that it can be closed (unlocked) during open hours.
- A copy machine for the Library Room.
- Moving the microfilm reader to the Library Room. Nick Altheri knows how to run this machine. It might be worthwhile for him to show us all how to operate this machine. When this reader is in place, we can move the hardcopy Franklin Sentinels downstairs for archival backup purposes.
- At our last meeting, we discussed having Mike D'Angelo come to the museum to inspect the operation of the HVAC system. It is now operating properly, so there is no need for him to attend our meeting to discuss issues.
- The tag on the Society of Redmen war club is faded and hard to read. We need to provide clearer signage.

## **Moving Items to the Museum**

*From 150 Emmons St* -- We may want to move items early enough to enlist the help of students attending class at 150 Emmons St. For safety reasons, this move will be by car, rather than on foot.

*From the DPW storage at Hayward St* – Bob agreed to let the Commission know what's there, so we can decide what to do with them.

*From the Old Museum* – The uppers levels may contain items we want to keep. Some members agreed to meet at the Old Museum to investigate.

## **Museum Programs**

We'll discuss plans for future displays and events at our next meeting.

**Museum Hosting**

- The log book is proving useful. (This has three purposes: a) a way for hosts to communicate with each other, b) a way for a host to record information or requests from a visitor, c) a way for visitors to elaborate on stories or facts.)
- We need pins for hosts, to identify them as hosts. Bob will investigate.
- Will the Museum be open the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup>? Mary felt it would be appropriate. We agreed to have it open only on the day of the parade, that date TBD.
- Debbie agreed to let the Fire Dispatcher know who'll be hosting at the museum, so they know who will be looking for access to the Museum.

**Friends of the Franklin Historical Museum (FFHM)**

- Funds to date from generous donors: \$1970., plus a recent additional \$183.
- We plan to install a Plexiglas donation box for walk-in contributors

**History**

Alice told us that the old fire pumper from the front of the Old Museum dates from 1879.

**Website**

Bob will work on adding content to the website.

**Grants -- None**

**Correspondence – None**

**Housing Rehab Requests – None**

**Demolition Requests – None.** We discussed holding a public hearing only if the Historical Commission deem a structure to be of historic value. We may need to amend the by-law to make this interpretation clear.

**Research Requests -- None**

**New Business -- None**

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