

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2013

Commissioners Present: Del Arnold, Alan Earls, Connie Lawson, Marlene Oliver, Mary Olsson, Debbie Pellegrini (Chair), Bob Percy (Clerk). *Absent:* (none)

Associates Present: Colette Ferguson. *Absent:* Kai Olsson, Mary O'Neill.

Last Meeting's Minutes – Approved (Vote: 7-0).

Commission Membership

We nominated Pearce and Maureen Murphy to become associate members of the Historical Commission. The Commission voted 7-0 to accept. This will now go to the Town Council for approval.

Action Items

Magnets – Mary will deliver 100 magnets to the Museum Shop. These were paid for by the Friends of the Franklin Historical Museum (FFHM).

Presentations

- Tim Twardowski from the Town Master Plan Committee came to get any feedback we had on the document he had sent us: “DRAFT HISTORIC RESOURCE GOALS & OBJECTIVES”. In order to provide him with the best feedback, Mary, Connie, and Bob agreed to meet as a subcommittee to better formulate a response to Tim's request. This subcommittee will meet in the coming month to finalize any comments or amendments to Tim's document.
- Kacey Donahue attended to provide final information about his very successful Eagle Scout project at the Museum. In all, his work encompassed 24 display cabinets, 603 items, and using PastPerfect, corrected the locations of 105 of these items. He spent a total of 58 hours (15 meeting to discuss the project, and 43 updating the PastPerfect database data). Kacey is willing to train those interested in the use of PastPerfect.

Kacey and others have expressed interest in having him become an associate member of the Commission. Due to the minimum age requirement of 18, he can instead continue in his official capacity as “intern”.

- Kennedy School Lady Bug Initiative (40th anniversary) – Alan has been in contact with former students who took part. The Kennedy School has some archival material and may mark the event(s) throughout the year.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS – (details from subcommittees, if provided)

⊗ **Communications** – (Bob)

⊗ **Document Preservation and Policies – (Alan, Connie, Del)**
(See Kacey Donahue under “Presentations”)

Del previously issued a Document Preservation User’s Guide, but has received no feedback on it yet.

Del handed out to Mary, Alan, Connie, and Bob DVDs that contain the PastPerfect User’s Guide and 19 instructional videos about PastPerfect.

Del welcomes comments on his draft of how to accession objects. Bob will provide feedback.

⊗ **Events – (Debbie, Colette, Connie)**
(See Old Business.)

⊗ **Finance and Budget – (Debbie)**

⊗ **Grants – (Marlene, Alan)**

⊗ **Hosting – (Debbie)**

⊗ **Museum Display – (Colette, Connie, Debbie)**

⊗ **Museum Operations – (Del, Alan)**
The requested electrical outlet for the PC work area is complete.

PCs were updated on 2/7 by Dan Chase of the Franklin Tech. Dept.

Del printed out hardcopy minutes through 2012 for backup purposes.

Del continues to attend the Franklin Downtown Partnership as the Historical Commission’s representative.

Del had feedback on Tim T’s “Draft Historic Resource Goals and Objectives” and will bring it to an upcoming session of the Master Plan Subcommittee.

⊗ **Outreach to Schools, Community – (Bob, Alan, Debbie)**

⊗ **Publicity – (Mary Olsson)**

⊗ **Strategic Plan – (Mary Olsson, Connie, Bob)**

⊗ **Website – (Bob, Alan, Mary Olsson)**
Civil War site – Bob has made some progress.

Friends of the Franklin Historical Museum (FFHM)
(See Magnets under Action Items.)

Housing Rehab Requests – None.

Demolition Requests – None.

Research Requests – None

Old Business

- Debbie distributed a calendar of upcoming Museum events.
- Jane's Frames – Debbie will find out more about a possible wall mount display for panels of photographs.
- Possible Quilt Display – Colette has determined that there would not be enough displayable material on which to base an exhibit for April.

New Business

- Ancestry.com – Mary found that annual dues for this service would be \$695. and that we cannot get access through the town (a site license). The Commission voted 7-0 not to obtain a subscription to Ancestry.com.
- There is a seminar for genealogical research at the LDS Church on 3/30. Mary expressed an interest in attending.
- Alan plans to investigate having speakers about farming come to the Museum.
- The Franklin Cultural Council will be making a donation to the Museum on April 7.
- We discussed having an appraiser come to the museum, in a “roadshow” style program. It would be free aside from an entrance fee.
- Alan mentioned that he would be interested in speaking about stamps, or about President W. H. Taft's visit to Franklin.