

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts  
Historical Commission

**Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2013**

**Comissioners Present: Debbie Pellegri, Del Arnold, Marlene Oliver, Colette Ferguson, Mary Olsson.**  
**Absent: Bob Percy, Connie Lawson**

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2013**

**B. CITIZEN COMMENTS -None**

**C. APPOINTMENTS** – Michael Barry suggested as an Associate Member, he's a college grad who studied architectural design. He indicated his interest in an email to Debbie. Debbie will ask him to attend out next meeting.

**D. PRESENTATIONS**

**E. DISCUSSIONS/VOTES**

E1. What books do we plan to keep downstairs? There are hymn books, books that had been donated by the town library, almanacs, months of Preservation magazine, etc. Mary suggested that we go through the books, making a decision about each one, before getting rid of anything. It was agreed that there was no need to hold onto the Preservation magazines. Colette offered to get in touch with the owner of the Squire Bookshop to see if he might take a look at the books and determine if any have any historical value.

E2. Ways to increase foot traffic? Bob submitted some ideas, we will go over these at the next meeting with Bob.

E3. Ideas for Emmons Street Corner? Marlene has been working on garden and fountain ideas to submit to the Town Council who are looking for concept ideas. Marlene presented her photos.

E4. Meeting to discuss ideas for old museum. If we have an official meeting it has to be posted in advance. One idea suggested would be something similar to an old church on the Cape that is now a second hand shop. Debbie said the Housing Authority is 99% sure they would like to take over the building.

- We will invite the Housing Authority tour next meeting to discuss their ideas for the old museum. We need to find a resolution for the old museum and add to the detail in the town's Master Plan (if there is still time to amend it.

E5. The museum will allow parking for a funeral next door at the Methodist Church scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>. There is no need to put out any additional signagae.

E6. The Citizens action committee has asked that the Train Station be put on the National Register. We need to find out the proper procedure. We will ask Alan and Eamon if they might be interested in working on this given their experience. We could also ask Michael Barry if this is something he might be interested in.

E7. Mary presented the flyer for the Appraisal Day and agreed to get 500 copies made at Allegra Printing. Members should each take some of the flyers and place them in high traffic businesses and stores. Paula needs to be at our next meeting to advise us as to how to proceed with plans and need for Appraisal Day scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**F. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

○ **Communications – (Bob)**

○ **Document Preservation and Policies – (Connie & Del)**

John has returned from vacation and is continuing with inventory and setting up the pictures for Jane's Frames. Del presented a step by step procedure for preparing the photos to submit to Jane. It is estimated that one of our large framed set of military photos would yield 3 of the frame sizes that Jane is doing for us.

○ **Events – (Debbie, Colette, Connie)** We already discussed the Antique Appraisal Day.

- Finance and Budget – (Debbie)
- Grants – Grants were discussed and Marlene indicated she no longer wants to do them.
- Hosting – Debbie
- Museum Display – (Colette, Connie, Debbie) The Wedding Dress display is complete and doing very well.
- Museum Operations – (Del)
- Outreach to Schools, Community – (Bob & Debbie)
- Publicity – Mary Olsson Newspapers have been notified about the Wedding Dress Exhibit and the Antique Appraisal Day. Mary will also give information about Appraisal day to FranklinTV.
- Strategic Plan – (Bob, Connie, Mary Olsson)
- Website – (Bob, Mary Olsson) The FB page continues to generate interest and is up to 271 followers. Both upcoming events have been promoted.

#### G. OLD BUSINESS

- G1. Volunteer helping downstairs
- G2. Bob added a copy of our old strategic plan to Dropbox
- G3. Display panels – nothing new
- G4. Improving museum attendance – Bob to make presentation

#### H. NEW BUSINESS

- F1. Marlene let us know that sadly Kenneth DeRosier who had participated in our Oral History project died just yesterday at the age of 81. This prompted discussion about the tapes, which Marlene said she would bring in.
- F2. Mary discussed the General Bob Winglass donation, a collection of photos, memorabilia, a uniform jacket and biography. These items are to be entered into past perfect and used in a permanent display that should be set up in time for the military exhibit in the fall.

#### I. FINANCES - Janet Norman from the Alden Club donated \$100 to the Museum

#### J. MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- J1. We discussed ways to raise money, increase foot traffic. We settled on the idea of a pumpkin carving contest. Marlene agreed to plan the event to coincide with the Harvest Festival.

#### K. FFHM

- Housing Rehab Requests – None
- Demolition Requests – None
- Research Requests – None

#### L. Vote to adjourn at 8:30 5-0