**Town of Franklin, Massachusetts**

**Historical Commission**

**Meeting Minutes, October 15, 2019**

Commission members present: Phyllis Malcolm, Paul Pisani, Richard Remillard, Brock Leindecker, Mary Olsson.

Minutes of the September 10 meeting were approved

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

APPOINTMENTS: Open position on the commission. Randy LaRossa has expressed interest.

PRESENTATIONS: None

DEMOLITION REQUESTS: None

FFHM: No one present

DISCUSSION/VOTE: None

TREASURER’S REPORT: $2700 balance

ARCHIVIST UPDATE: Rebecca made a presentation to the Town Council in September. The full presentation can be found on Franklin Matters.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

* Hosting Schedule: Mary will send out November and December schedules together. We will start our winter hours as of 10/31
* Exhibits: Veterans exhibit, it has been discussed, but nothing definite is planned at this time.
* Publicity and social media: ongoing
* Demolition delay: we need to set a date to review and move forward with ideas

EVENTS

* Second Sunday Speaker Series
  + Mike Tougias gave a very interesting talk on the Cuban Missile Crisis in October. Mike has agreed to come back again next year to speak on a new topic.
  + November: Corinne Smith – Mom’s WWII letters
  + December: Ken Torrino – The History of Christmas
  + Mary is working on the 2020 schedule
* Downtown Partnership Harvest Festival was October 5th. There was a record turnout and great weather. Our scarecrow contest had one entry, we should publicize it in the schools next year. We had 54 entrants for the ‘guess the # of candy corns in the jar’. The winner received a basket of harvest and Halloween goodies.
* The Halloween Cemetery Tour with Dean History Professor Rob Lawson is scheduled for Thursday October 31st. People will meet on the steps of the museum at 4:45 and walk to the cemetery

OLD BUSINESS

* The ‘FRANKLIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM’ sign has been installed on the front of the museum and looks great. Thanks to Signs by Cam for a job well done.
* Key pick up: nothing new, remove from agenda until something new to discuss
* Bunting: to be paid for from community improvement fund
* Mrs. Claus at museum: Nothing has been confirmed. Mary to contact Mrs. Claus.
* Donations for Franklin Food Pantry: Food collected during SSSS. Mary to add to publicity
* Museum Policy and Procedure: A subcommittee needs to be formed to review
* Historical Huddle: postponed, no new date yet.

NEW BUSINESS

* Davis Thayer 2nd Grade class visit scheduled for November 8th at 9:30. Mary to meet with the class.
* Methodist Church will be holding a Trunk or Treat event on Sunday afternoon October 27th. Mary has asked the remaining scaffolding be removed from our parking lot, for safety, with children expected in the shared lot.
* Annual Dean History reception is scheduled for Wednesday night October 30. Mary to host, Brock will also attend.
* Pack 17 Cub Scout visit is scheduled for Monday night November 18. Mary will meet with the group at 6:30.
* Notable Blend has expressed interest in performing a Christmas event in December 2020 and is applying for a grant from the Franklin Cultural Council to cover their costs.
* The Cultural Council will hold their grant reception at the Museum Thursday night February 27th.
* Event Schedule for 2020, Mary is working on it and will have it ready for the FFHM meeting in December.
* Norfolk County Registrar Bill O’Donnell sent a letter offering to speak, Mary will work with his office to confirm a date.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

* Paul suggested we make signs saying ‘DO NOT TOUCH’ for some of the items on display. Paul also suggested setting up a typewriter and a phone, just outside the Brick School room that can be ‘hands on’.

There being no further comments, the meeting was ADJOURNED