



Town of Franklin Massachusetts
Historical Commission

MEETING MINUTES: September 14, 2022

Commission Members Present: Mary Olsson, Paul Pisani, Alan Earls, Phyllis Malcolm, Randy LaRosa, Jan Prentice, Scott Mason

Associate Members: Kai Olsson, Will Lee

Minutes of the August 10, 2022 meeting were accepted as written

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

APPOINTMENTS: We officially welcomed new Commission members Jan Prentice and Scott Mason as well as Associate Member Will Lee.

PRESENTATIONS: Scott brought in a model of the type of work he is doing for the December exhibit of the Franklin Railroad station in scale. He's looking to do a brief written history on the buildings in the area that he will be displaying.

DEMOLITION REQUESTS: None

FFHM Report: No member present

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- TREASURER: \$356.00 used to date. Legal notices are \$156.00. Demo delay bylaw states they need to be posted in a local newspaper. It was suggested the person applying for the permit should be responsible for the cost of the notice. DDBL to be reviewed.
- ARCHIVIST : Second interviews being conducted in September
- SSSS: Ted Reinstein in October \$400. Alan suggested Ingrid Grannes who could speak on the History of the Wrentham State School.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Cultural Festival – there were reportedly 10,000 people in attendance. We had a booth for the first time, we didn't see that much traffic, but there was some interest. We had Rachel Pukes spinning yarn as an exhibit which was very popular.
- Harvest Festival Planning – to be held October 1st. Phyllis has secured a pop corn machine and will have all supplies ready the day of. Bobo the Clown will be here making balloon art for the kids. Fee to be paid by the Downtown Partnership. Randy to open at 10. Festival from 12-5. Mary will do a vintage post card exhibit to open the day of the festival. Ben Franklin will appear in costume.

- Future Exhibits: Alan suggested getting Paul Compton to come in and speak on his collection of oil lamps.
- Jim Johnston room media: Paul is working on an instruction manual for the iPad before installing.
- Thursday Movie Nights: To be considered again in the Spring

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- Jan asked about the Boston Cane, as the current holder, Walter Zinchuk recently passed. This has always been handled by the Town Clerk's office. Also, a woman came in asking about military photo she donated of her father Robert Thornhill. People must be told there is no guarantee that the items will become part of a display. Jan stated she is doing research on the former teachers at the Brick School.
- Jan asked when we would be getting the step stool for the library room, Mary to pick one up at Staples and will inquire as to where the large ladder went.
- Paul brought the 4 stones that had been donated as artifacts to Mass Archeology at the Robins Museum in Middleboro. It was determined that only one of the 4 was an actual Native American artifact. It will be put on display with the other items in the arrowhead case.
- Paul asked if the new Johnston room needs any type of security, noting that the front room has locked doors. There were no requests for doors for the second room. Mary to find out who facilitated the installation of the room as there were no commission members involved and no consulting with commission members as to the time line.
- Alan said his wife Vicki has been doing some research, through the library, on the current historical districts in town and their meaning, which are basically honorary and don't hold much protection for buildings. He suggested the commission form a historic district sub-committee.
- Phyllis asked when the bunting would be taken down, Mary will call Carlos at the DPW
- Mary suggested we start researching our list of historic homes and get information on each as a matter of record. Project to be set up in the future. We could possibly use volunteers to do the research.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM