



Town of Franklin Massachusetts
Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes December 14, 2022

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

Minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting were accepted as written. There was no meeting in November.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

DEMOLITION REQUESTS: Scheduled for 12/21/22 88 & 94 East Central Street

FFHM Report: No one present

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- TREASURER: Mary reported that we have spent \$1,695 YTD wich is 42.4% of the budget with \$2,304 left to spend.
- ARCHIVIST update: Rowan Lowell has started. She hopes to attend future meetings but was not available to attend tonight.
- Second Sunday Speaker Series : Joe Landry is scheduled for January to speak on Trains, to compliment Scott's exhibit. Rob Lawson is scheduled for February 12 and Mary will do a presentation on the Union Street Cemetery in March. We will be closed for the SS in April. May is still to be scheduled. June will be Ingrid Grenon on the History of the Wrentham State School.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Upcoming exhibits: Scotts diarama of the circa 1932 Franklin Train station will open December 18th and run through the end of January.
- Bell at Old South Meeting House – The town has sold the building and part of the agreement is that the town will get the bell. It has to be decided where it should go. Alan suggested it go on the town common where it could then be rung during events and ceremonies. We need to consult with JH and the TC on this matter.
- Demolition Delay Bylaw: We will review in the near future, but on hold for now

- Dean College History Reception: Held earlier in December was a huge success. The new President, Kenneth Elmore and the new Chancellor Edward M. Augustus, Jr. were in attendance.
- Commission Christmas Party: Sunday December 18th at Mary's.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Establishing local historic districts: Vicki Earls is presenting a power point on the topic to the Town Council at their first January meeting. At the following meeting we should express our desire to be involved with the process of researching and establishing these local districts. Everyone is encouraged to attend or watch the meeting and presentation.
- Host vs Docent – We need to further discuss establishing Docents. Alan provided some information from the historic Taylor-Brown House Docent program.
- Wish list for the FFHM:
 1. Funds for SSSS
 2. Funding for flowers from DTP during 3 annual downtown decorating days
 3. Misc. printing as needed
 4. Money for a few additional Christmas decorations, possibly new wreaths for the front windows.
 5. Refreshments for Strawberry Stroll (June), Harvest Festival (October) Ben Franklin Birthday (January). Town Birthday (March) Horace Mann Birthday (May)
 6. Money for Scott Mason's work and time on the train diarama.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- There is a plaque that was at the DT HS honoring fallend WWII heros of Franklin. It is presently housed in the museum. Alan suggests it should be back at the HS visible to HS students.
- Alan suggested a security system of cameras around the museum because of a suspicious incident that happened recently and the fact that we can't have our eyes on everything at all times.
- Alan was on the call this morning for the Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- Alan is proposing 2 'Silent Saturdays' in February for either side of the February schoold vacation. Presenting silent Harold Lloyd films for the public to come in and enjoy. More to follow.
- Phyllis reported that the next public hearing for the CPC is January 7th at the Municipal Building @7:00PM
- Phyllis shared that December 15 is the Senior Center's Winter Wonderland, with live entertainment and decorated trees being raffled off. Thank you Phyllis for decorating the tree from the Historic Commission.
- Scott thanked everyone for their patience as he worked on his train exhibit.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM