

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2018, 6:30 PM

Commissioners Present: Phyllis Malcolm, Mary Olsson, Bob Percy, Paul Pisani, Richard Remillard

Absent: Jeremy Ball, Colette Ferguson

Visiting: None

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from July 10th, approved as amended.

B. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None.

C. APPOINTMENTS - None.

D. PRESENTATIONS - None.

E. DEMOLITION REQUESTS - In the coming weeks, before our next monthly meeting, we will place pending demolitions, notably the structure at 834 - 836 West Central St., before the public at an open meeting.

F. FRIENDS OF THE FRANKLIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM (FFHM) -

1. No one from FFHM in attendance.

2. Thanks to the FFHM for sponsoring last month's Second Sunday speaker.

G. DISCUSSION/VOTE - Mary proposed that we place a noticable permanent banner on the museum building. Exterior recognition of the building's purpose has been lacking. Tasteful black lettering (3-D) was proposed. Proposal was passed 5-0.

H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report (Phyllis) – We have \$3950.

I. EVENTS -

a. Second Sunday Speakers

i. Sept. 9th, Alan Earls, subject: the CCC (FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps)

ii. October, Mike Tougias, subject: King Phillip's War

iii. November, Alan Earls, subject: Town Monuments. (This will follow the Dedication of the Veterans' Walkway on the Common, and a subsequent reception at the Museum.)

iv. December, James Johnston, subject: The Oliver Pond House in Context, Part II.

b. Harvest Festival - Oct. 13th. Discussed plans to hold a scarecrow contest.

c. Holiday Stroll - need to determine the date (either last weekend of Nov., or first weekend in Dec.)

d. Event Subcommittee - we're planning to meet on the evening of Nov. 6th to plot the way ahead for 2019.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. New Logo For Museum - Nothing new to report.

2. Second Sunday speaker - Maureen Taylor, Photo Detective. Her presentation this month was very well received.

3. Sign for Old Horace Mann school - In progress.

4. 'Franklin' Trowbridge piano – It was proposed that due to the weight of the piano's soundboard, that we should place the entire piece on castors rather than mount it on a wall. Mechanism can be viewed through plexiglas.

5. Museum Website - Meeting planned for transfer of knowledge on how to update and launch the new website, 8/30.

6. Digital Commonwealth Scanning (Bob) – Bob will examine the next volumes of Sentinels to bring to the BPL for scanning. Candidate years are 1904, 1916, 1917, and 1928 thru 1935.
7. Changes to Demo Delay Bylaw - Jeremy and Mary met with Jamie Hellen, Gus Brown, Bryan Taberner, and the town planner to discuss best ways to streamline this process. A follow-on meeting is planned.
8. Hayward Mansion Carriage House - Jeremy will follow up.
9. Scanning parties - response in the past has been mixed.
10. iC4K content maintenance - We have plans to meet with Almont Green and to obtain access to technical instructions he has created.

K. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Community Concerts - to be discussed at the Nov 6th events planning meeting.
2. Annual Report - our section is due with the others at or near 9/15th. Bob will write this.
3. We discussed the requirements for rotating the contents of display cases. We'll make better use of the underneath drawers.
4. Need to take down the wedding dress display, 8/27 thru 8/29.
5. A reminder to volunteers - to record the hours they've worked in the purple log book that is located in the Library Room.
6. Mary has placed a new black filing cabinet in the Library Room.
7. Thanks to Phyllis and Kai for setting up a very nice display at the Town Offices.
8. Remi worked with a student volunteer on the Franklin piano project.

L. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS - None

M. ADJOURN - Voted 5-0 to adjourn, 7:41 PM.