

# Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

## Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2016, 6:30 PM

**Commissioners Present:** Connie Lawson, Phyllis Malcolm, Mary Olsson, Bob Percy, Richard Remillard.

**Absent:** Colette Ferguson

**Associates Present:** Jeremy Ball

**Visiting:** Alan Earls, Nicole Nietzel, Paul Pisani

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - From the meeting on May 10, 2016. Approved as amended.

**B. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** - Remy noticed a building on Crescent St. that has a red X on it. He will investigate.

**C. APPOINTMENTS** - Colette, Connie, and Bob need to get sworn in to renew their membership.

**D. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Nicole Nietzel, Curator. Some short term plans:

- Open shelving (accessible from both sides)
- Remove some of the tables near the back
- Make better use of vertical space
- Create an area for object processing and cleaning
- Add to the PastPerfect database
- Things on tables would go into permanent shelving
- Possibly activate the vault. (Mary will ask Brutus and Gus about this.)
- Sort items into groups: emphasis on Franklin-specific objects, objects to be deaccessioned, label non-historic items as 'not part of our collection'
- In general, our current wooden cabinets should contain only items that are not part of our collection
- Invest in the Nomenclature 4.0 book (\$115.), which provides definitive terminology of any/all objects.

2. Alan Earls, Charles River Meadowlands project ([www.charlesrivermeadowlands.org](http://www.charlesrivermeadowlands.org)):

- US Army Corp of Engineers - build dams. Bought the land between Rt. 495 and Pond St., and a parcel west of the highway, for flood control.
- Alan is organizing a meeting to take place in September. He's found that in a survey of the 72 largest towns in Massachusetts, Franklin ranks second to last in walkability. A multi-town effort (Franklin, Medway, Bellingham) could make that unspoiled acreage a resource all could enjoy.

**E. FRIENDS OF THE FRANKLIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM (FFHM)** - No one in attendance. Mary will ask what FFHM plans there are for the event on the last Thurs in July (Fiddling Thompsons).

**F. DISCUSSION/VOTE** - nothing today

**G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. PastPerfect Project (Bob) - Bob will continue to enter items in PastPerfect, and coordinate with Nicole on proper process.
2. Summer Intern (see **Section D.1.**)
3. Digitized Documents (Bob) - Bob will check on our Collective Commons membership, and gather a box of books to send to them.
4. Treasurer's Report (Phyllis) - We have roughly \$653. remaining. We can purchase the Nomenclature 4.0 book Nicole requested.

5. Miniature Medals Display, works by Robert Megerdichian (Mary) - To take place Sat. October 1st. Robert M. will set up. Presentation will be Sunday, October 2nd.
6. Photo Frames (Mary) - On hold.

**H. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Museum Calendar for 2017 - Phyllis and Mary are gathering pictures and are targeting to have all content decided by Aug. 1st. Mary suggested giving free copies to Museum donors, but FFHM can decide.
2. Brick School Room Enhancements - Colette not here.
3. Signage for Native American Corner (Colette, Bob) - Nothing new.
4. Museum Shop, Horace Mann Books (Mary, All) - We'll need bookshelves in the Museum Shop. Remy may be able to assist/advise.
5. Almont Studios of Medway - We would host an event at his gallery in Medway: we promote and advertise it. Slated for Sunday, August 28th, from 3PM to 7PM.

**I. NEW BUSINESS (ask members)**

1. Civil War reenactment to be taking place in Millis both days this weekend.
2. FHS Class of 1971 will be gathering at the Museum on Fri., September 23rd, from 7-9PM. Phyllis will open for them.

**J. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS - None**

**K. DEMOLITION REQUESTS - None.**

**L. ADJOURN - Voted 6-0 to adjourn.**