

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2016, 6:30 PM

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

Absent: Colette Ferguson

Associates Present: Jeremy Ball, Kai Olsson

Visiting: Sophie Olsson

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - From the meeting on Apr. 19, 2016. Approved as amended.
- B. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** - Jeremy noticed a building on Crescent St. that has a red X on it. He will investigate.
- C. APPOINTMENTS** - Mary will ask Jeff N. about confirming the vacancy on the Historical Commission.
- D. PRESENTATIONS** - None.
- E. EVENT AND DISPLAY SCHEDULE** - (No need for this section: hereafter stricken from minutes.)
- F. FRIENDS OF THE FRANKLIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM (FFHM)** - No one in attendance.
- G. DISCUSSION/VOTE**
 - 1. Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School - proposal to build a new school on Washington St. Voted 5-0 to approve. Mary will send them an email response.
 - 2. Appraisal Day - vote to approve Fri. evening, Sept. 16th as the date for this event: 5-0. Remy said he would open for this event.
 - 3. 2017 Historical Museum calendar - Discussion that the FFHM would/could create it. Perhaps make it ready for the Fall dedication event across the street. Proposal: to elect Phyllis as a chair of a Historic Calendar Subcommittee: approved 5-0.
- H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - 1. PastPerfect Project (Bob) - Has been entering the larger objects into PastPerfect. We discussed the importance of including an object's location in its PastPerfect record. Bob will create and post a document near the accession table. As people move the newly accessioned objects, they can write down the new location. Bob will then add this location info to PastPerfect.
 - 2. Summer Intern and Budget (Mary) - Mary has received some very promising inquiries about our summer intern position.
 - 3. Digitized Documents (Bob) - Bob will continue to supply archive.org with books for digitizing. Sophie O. commented that Mr. Wall of FHS is interested in digitizing our audio records, likely during the 2016-17 school year.
 - 4. Treasurer's Report (Phyllis) - The Historical Commission's fiscal year ends 6/30. We need to purchase necessary materials before then, and provide receipts to Phyllis. Items discussed: reframing pictures (Jane's Frames), freestanding display panels, upstairs textile shelving (from Target or Global catalog). Jeremy mentioned that "Abe's" is a good source of historic books online for current and future purchases.
 - 5. Miniature Medals Display, works by Robert Megerdichian (Mary) - Mary will contact him.
 - 6. Photo Frames (Mary) - Mary will pick out photos and let Jane C. know what we'd like to have reframed.
- I. OLD BUSINESS**
 - 1. Enhancements to Brick School Displays (Colette) - Nothing new.

2. Native American Corner - Bob distributed proposed wording for the signage for that area. Typo comment from Phyllis. Bob will work with Colette to move ahead the signage in that corner.
3. Museum Shop, Horace Mann Books (Mary, All) - Connie has purchased for junior readers a number of books that we can provide for sale. We agreed to set the price of the Horace Mann books that Mary had purchased at \$10./ea.
4. Almont Studios of Medway - We would host an event at his gallery in Medway: we promote and advertise it. Perhaps a Saturday or Sunday from 3PM to 7PM. Motion to set a tentative date of Aug. 28th, 2016: passed 5-0.
5. Process for Incoming Accessioned Items (Bob) - See Section H.1.

J. NEW BUSINESS (ask members)

1. Roundtable gathering with local historical commissions. Motion to proceed with this event, on Aug. 7th: Passed 5-0.
2. Question arose - as part of the digitizing process, could we have the Chilson Fire Photographs scanned? Bob will investigate.

K. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS - None

1. Security for display cases was discussed. All cases confirmed secure.
2. Kids' Week guesses for displayed questioned. Bob will respond to those who submitted guesses.
3. Franklin Library Genealogy Club - will be holding meetings at the Museum on May 26th and June 30th.

L. DEMOLITION REQUESTS - None.

M. ADJOURN - Voted 5-0 to adjourn.