

# Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

## Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2017, 6:30 PM

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

**Absent:** Colette Ferguson

**Associate Commissioners Present:** Kai Olsson

**Visiting:** Debbie Pellegrini

Meeting began 6:47.

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - July 11th minutes: approved as amended

**B. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS** - None.

**C. APPOINTMENTS** - None.

**D. PRESENTATIONS** - None.

**E. DEMOLITION REQUESTS** - None.

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

1. The Friends currently have \$7600.

2. Appreciation Day for donors to Museum, scheduled for 10/1.

**G. DISCUSSION/VOTE** - None.

**H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Treasurer's Report (Phyllis) - Account is replenished since start of fiscal year. We've spent roughly \$100. so far.

**I. EVENTS**

(For recaps, see OLD BUSINESS)

1. Wedding Dress Display - Gowns to come down starting Sunday, 8/27.

2. Hat Display begins 9/10.

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Recap - Franklin Cultural Festival. Talk given by Karen A. was very well received. She can give other talks, including WWII fashions. To increase audience size in the future, we discussed taking an ad out in the Franklin Gazette.

2. Long discussion about combining the Fourth of July Festival with the Franklin Cultural Festival. Pros and cons on each side.

3. National Register signs for the downtown (Jeremy) - Ongoing.

4. Eagle Scout Project - We hope to have the updated Museum website go live in September.

5. Scanning project - Digital Commonwealth returned our two boxes of documents to us. Next steps? Perhaps focusing on large format items such as maps.

6. Changes to Demo Delay Bylaw - Jeremy has submitted a draft to Bldg Commissioner Gus Brown and others.

7. Purchasing needs, such as for preservation materials - rather than brainstorm in real time here, Mary will send out an email asking for suggestions.

8. 2018 Museum Calendar - Mary, Phyllis, and Bob will begin selecting pictures.

9. Boston Post Cane Display Case - Phyllis is working with someone who will create a new display case for this.
10. Little Red House - 1342 West Central St. - Historical signage - Connie and Bob have continued research at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Norfolk and made good progress. Additional questions remain that will require additional research/visits to Boston. Bob will send info about our progress to Katherine S. at Wood Inc.
11. Printing press - Hampton College needs to research whether they are entitled to deaccession this press to us.
12. Roger Calarese request for historical info about the site at Horace Mann Square. We discussed funding for this endeavor (a standing plaque). We can use pictures that we have from display cases and from downstairs.
13. Museum interns/future direction - Mary discussed the possibility of grants for the MAP (Museum Assessment Program) or CAP (Conservation Assessment Program). She has discussed this with Jaime Hellen. The money would fund a consultant who could help us formulate a multi-year plan. Mary plans to contact NEMA for more information. A motion to submit grant proposals for both MAP and CAP passed 5-0.

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Community Preservation Act (CPA) - We intend to tell Jeff that we are in support of this initiative. A motion to submit a letter of support passed 5-0. Mary will write it.
2. Need for Museum hosts - Bob suggested contacting potential hosts through Facebook.

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

1. Massachusetts Dept. of Transportation - positive train controls. They are installing antennas in the downtown and at Forge Park.
2. Kai suggested that we need more overhead spotlights on the display floor.

**M. ADJOURN - Voted 5-0 to adjourn, 8:18PM.**