



**TOWN OF BECKET**  
**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223  
TOWN HALL – (413) 623-8934  
FAX – (413) 623-6036

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023

**Meeting Time:** 5:00 PM

**Meeting Place:** Historical Commission Office, Town Hall

**Attendees:** Sandi Jarvis, Rita Furlong, John Garvey

### **Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order by SJ at 5:09pm.
2. A motion was made by RF to approve the minutes from the October meeting, seconded by SJ and approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report: RF reported that the \$624.59 for the printer/copier/scanner came out of the 2024 fiscal year, leaving a balance of \$1,375.41. The purchase was made in June but the invoice did not come through until July.
4. Communications
  - a. New-
    - i. Town notifications: None
    - ii. Annual Town Report article due by 31 Jan 2024
    - iii. Becket Fire Department History query from Mark Hanford, (Jan Elovirta)
    - iv. FY2025 Budget requests due by 22 Dec 2023.
    - v. Online training, Office of the Inspector General, **Boards and Commissions: Know your Responsibilities**, Thursday, November 16, 2023 (3:00pm- 6:00 pm).
5. New Business

- a. FY2025 Budget request: A motion was made by RF to move the purchase of the final four signs to FY2025, with the vote to be reviewed again near the end of this fiscal year. Seconded by JG and passed unanimously.
- b. Annual Town Report article: SJ will present a draft for review at the December meeting.
- c. History of Fire Department: RF and SJ both provided some information. SJ will scan all filed information on the fire department and provide a thumb drive.
- d. David and Mary Fuller have donated a number of items to the town, including old town reports, news articles and voting records. These were donated in memory of Charles D. Rice, former Becket Police Chief. These items will be reviewed for proper filing and storage. JG will fill out a Deed of Gift form and send a copy to the Fullers with a thank you note.

## 6. Old Business

- a. Ephraim Walker papers: The papers have arrived, the final purchase price was \$300. JG will submit the reimbursement form to the treasurer. The papers will eventually be scanned into the computer and then stored appropriately.
- b. Cupola restoration: JG and RF reported that the contractor is repricing the project due to slight design changes and possible increases for materials. He is also pricing the internal structural work which was not part of the original pricing. Once these figures are in it will be determined whether an additional amount will need to be requested from CPA funds. The lightning protection for the town hall is being covered by a grant.
- c. Jacob's Pillow historical material: SJ reports that she has spoken with Norton Owen, archivist at Jacob's Pillow about adding to our historical material on the Pillow. He agreed that we should have copies of some of their material. SJ also proposed adding a Jacob's Pillow display in the town hall, either in the rotating space in the front hall (currently containing the Baseball in the Berkshires display) or in some of the other display cases throughout town hall. He will visit with SJ at the town hall on Saturday, November 18 to look at the display possibilities.
- d. Historic Building Plaques: JG reports that the next four signs have been ordered. He will submit the reimbursement form for the one sign already purchased. He will look into how to publicize the program.
- e. Revolutionary War veterans: No report
- f. HP printer, new home: SJ reports that she has informed the town administrator that the old HP printer is surplus equipment.

- g. Ballou Park signage-Native American mill stone: No report
- h. Massachusetts State Archive maps: No report.
- i. 2027-100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Becket Flood: No report

7. Meeting was adjourned at 5:56pm

Next meeting – Dec 12 at 5:00 PM, Becket Town Hall

Minutes submitted by John Garvey, clerk