

TOWN of BECKET
HISTORICAL COMMISSION Minutes

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

TOWN HALL – (413) 623-8934

FAX – (413) 623-6036

Meeting Date: Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018

Meeting Time: 3:00 PM

Meeting Place: Historical Commission Office, Becket Town Hall

Attendance: Sandi, Rita, Gail, Katherine

Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.
2. Minutes from June, 2018 were unanimously approved.
3. There were no changes in our treasury.
4. Communications
 - a. **Old**
 1. A set of small snuff jars from the Frank Andrews Farm have been donated to the Historical Commission by Barbara Hamilton.
 2. Karen Karlberg, local photographer, donated two photos, one of the Kushi Institute (Boulder Grange) and one of Camp Lenox sailboats on Shaw Pond in Becket
 3. Darlene Demarest, of YMCA Road donated a Camp Becket photo book, town plate, and an ink print of the Congregational Church
 4. Mt. St. Lawrence School has not yet been identified as being part of the Franciscan Father's monastery Boulder Grange
 5. We received three postcards of Camp Becket from the Easthampton Historical Commission.
 6. We've received a 20% off certificate from Gaylord's.
 - b. **New**
 1. We voted unanimously to pay \$12 to the Federated Church to have our meeting times printed on its calendar. We also voted unanimously to change our meeting day to the 2nd Tuesday of each month, beginning in January 2019.
 2. Both Sandi's and Gail's memberships in the Historical Commission will extend another three years.
 3. Paul Sneeringer who works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division, is involved in a pre-application consultation review for a project to repair the Crystal Pond Dam

off of Big Bass Lane in Becket, MA. Mr. Sneeringer wants to know if there are any known historical properties in or adjacent to the Crystal Pond Dam which could potentially be impacted on by the proposed repair project.

4. We received an e-mail from Mike Steben who is looking for information on Hayes Farm Slopes, a ski area that operated in the 1930's and was accessible from Benton Hill Road. He believes that there was also a snow train depot nearby. Mr. Steben would like to know more about where its location was. We have no available information on this property as of yet. Perhaps the Snow name refers to the Snow family who lived near the Becket Train Depot.

5. Additionally, we received an e-mail from Philip Smith, a contributing writer to Berkshire Magazine. He is looking for information about the early days of Dream Away Lodge, especially about the rumors that have always circulated about it. None of us had any additional information to share with Mr. Smith.

5. Old Business

- a. Display cases We'll discuss them in the fall.
- b. New members No discussion
- c. Plan of action No discussion
- d. Office organization No discussion
- e. All voted to make Gail our representative to the CPC, the Community Preservation Committee.

6. New Business

- a. Commission reorganization We decided to reappoint all of our officers. Sandra Jarvis-Chair, W.Katherine Hoak-Secretary, and Rita Furlong-Treasurer
- b. Goals will be continued.

7. Next meeting September 4, 2018 3 PM

Katherine Hoak, Secretary

August 11, 2018