



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

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020

**Meeting Time:** 3:00 PM

**Meeting Place:** Berkshire Room, Becket Town Hall

**Attendance:** Sandi Jarvis, Rita Furlong, John Garvey, Katherine Hoak (by conference call.)

**Absent:** Gail Kusek

### **Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:09 PM.
2. A motion was made & seconded to approve the Minutes of the September meeting. All were in favor of the motion.
3. We currently have \$725.04 in our Treasury, after \$1,274.96 was paid to John to reimburse him for the cost of the signs. Town money has been set aside for the purchase of a computer.
4. Communications
  - a. Old-
    - i. The query re: Amanda Barnes Smith was put on hold because of Gail's absence.
    - ii. Query re: Helen Lyons, researching for her Lydia Baird/Stedman families. Sandi replied by sending information including images of Cerelia Snow's church records and genealogy.
    - iii. Query: Geoff Lincoln regarding Silas Linkon & Hannah (Luce) Linkon, Geoff believed they were buried in Becket.
      1. No burial records found in Becket, Ancestry.com: Abstracts of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots; Vol. 3; Serial number 10094; Vol. 5; States Silas Lincoln's burial, was at the Curtis Farm, stone lost, Virgil, Cortland, New York.
      2. Silas was a Revolutionary War veteran
      3. Sandi replied by sending information, including images from Becket sources, to Geoff
  - b. New-

- i. Town notification: On Nov. 18, to install an antenna array at 1047 George Carter Rd. We unanimously decided to pass on this.

#### 5. New Business

- a. Beverly R. Gillette, a former member of the Historical Commission; passed away on 24 September, 2020, had served on it between 1982 & 2005.
- b. Church tower with Paul Revere bell: there has been a study done to determine how to proceed with repairs of the facility. Now money needs to be collected in order to proceed with them.
- c. Community Calendar: we unanimously approved to spend the required \$12 in order to be included on the calendar.
- d. Discussion concerning the time required to complete research for personal queries:
  - i. Should/can a fee be charged?
  - ii. Would fees received go into the General Fund or into HC's revolving fund?
  - iii. We need to ask Bill Caldwell about this before we decide how to proceed.
  - iv. Posting the Becket Historical Records, beginning in the early 1700's, is in progress; people with personal queries should then be able to do some of their own research online

#### 6. Old Business

- a. Signage for Ballou Park and Parade Ground give a positive impression. John carried through on their purchase. Cement basing is needed now for them.
- b. Discussed recognition for past members; re: Rob Gordon ('95-2012,) Beverly Gillette ('92-2005);
  - i. Possibilities: Town Hall plaque, tree, post on our webpage, post in HC office
  - ii. John will formulate a list of past members.
- c. "Historical Facts" link on the Town's webpage,
  - i. Edited several of the 17 written articles
  - ii. Discussed and assigned additional articles
  - iii. Created a spreadsheet with historical location, file name, highlights, links, status; discussed whether to list by town location or alphabetically
  - iv. Working with Beverly Gilbert to post finished articles.
  - v. Will add our HC email address for queries about sources, questions
- d. Portrait of Helen Day Flynn (age 16) of Becket, MA 1911-1999. We put this off to be dealt with in the future, along with:
- e. Office organization
- f. New members

- g. Goal—Preserve & publicize Becket’s historical structure
  - i. Becket history awareness
  - ii. Becket Historical Commission actions
- h. Plan of Action
  - i. 21 Maple Street plaque dedication
  - ii. Photo Documentation of historic buildings
  - iii. Becket Bulletin
- 7. Next meeting—November 10, 2020 at 3:00 PM.
- 8. The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 PM.

Submitted by:

W. Katherine Hoak, Secretary

Sandi Jarvis, Chair