



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

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Meeting Time: 3:00 PM

Meeting Place: Berkshire Room, Becket Town Hall

Minutes

1. Call to order - Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sandi Jarvis at 3:00pm

In attendance: Sandi Jarvis, Gail Kusek, John Garvey, and Katherine Houk (phone), Guest: Jenn Beatty (phone).

2. Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the November 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report – Our new balance is \$713.04, the only expense since our last meeting was \$12 for the community calendar.

4. Communications

- a. Old-

- i. Sandi sent a thank you letter to Beverly Gilbert, copying the select board and town administrator.
- ii. Query re: Amanda Barnes Smith – Gail has sent her most recent information, no other action at this time.
- iii. Community Calendar - Complete.
- iv. John Davis, Yokum Pond Cemetery: Sandi has sent 23 pages of correspondence to Mr. Davis and will file the same in the office.

b. New-

i. Town notifications:

1. Katz, 305 Sherwood Drive
2. Levenfeld, 229 South Shore Drive
3. Vincent, 509 Quarry Road

a. A motion was made by John Garvey to take no action on any of these notifications. Motion passed unanimously.

5. New Business

a. 43 Pleasant St. sign-off request discussion: It was discussed that it looks like the request is to put vinyl siding on the back and two sides and leave the front as wooden clapboards. Windows will be replaced by vinyl windows. Jenn Beatty gave a short history of recent work on the house and asked what the position of the Historical Commission was on this property. After discussion John Garvey made a motion that the Historical Commission respond to the sign-off request with the following suggestions:

- i. It is important to maintain the historic character of the house given that it is in the North Becket National Historic District.
- ii. The front of the house should be painted and care taken to maintain historic details.
- iii. The owner should consider restoration of the windows in the front of the house rather than vinyl replacements.
- iv. The above motion was passed unanimously. John will provide the exact wording to Sandi and she will sign-off on the request.

6. Old Business

- a. "Historical Facts" link on the Historical Commission's page: John still needs to do the Jacob Ladder Trail Scenic Byway entry.
 - b. List of past commissioners; recognition: John will wait until the town hall fully reopens before compiling this information.
 - c. Becket Bulletin: Sandi will ask the town administrator to add a blurb to the next bulletin announcing the "Historical Facts" section of the town website.
 - d. Annual Town Report article: A motion was made by Gail Kusek to approve the draft of the town report article, the motion passed unanimously.
 - e. Portrait of Helen Day Flynn (Age 16) of Becket, MA 1911-1999: The transfer of this portrait to the Historical Commission will occur when it is safe to do so.
7. Next meeting – January 12 at 3:00 PM: A motion was made by Sandi Jarvis to cancel the January meeting; the motion was passed unanimously.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:36pm.

Minutes provided by Clerk Pro Tem John Garvey.