



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

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Meeting Time: 5:00 PM NOTE: Time change

Meeting Place: Becket Town Hall

Minutes

Attendees: Sandi Jarvis, Rita Furlong, John Garvey, Gail Kusek (5:34pm)

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair SJ at 5:07pm. SJ explained that the meeting was not posted at the town hall (it was posted on the town website), therefore there will be no votes taken at this meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes – January 2023: No action.
3. Treasurer's Report – No report.
4. Communications
 - a. New-
 - i. Town notifications: ZBA Public Hearing on the Jacob's Pillow application to construct a replacement for the Duke Theater with accompanying construction. No action.
 - ii. Photographs received from Kathy Sandford. Photos are from 1927 - 1928 of the North Becket area. SJ has sent a thank you and acknowledgment and asked for more information about the original owner.

- iii. Burial site for Claus/Klaus Timmermann/Timmerman in North Becket Cemetery, he passed away on August 19, 1941 query from James Mason. This burial is not recorded in any of our records. As part of the research into this it was found that the death/burial index kept by the town clerk has not been updated since 2014. This is not a requirement of the clerk but makes research easier, the current clerk has agreed to try to keep it up to date. Bill Kavanaugh, Cemetery Commissioner, may also have records. Research will continue to try to find whether this burial occurred in North Becket Cemetery or not.
- iv. Bill McEvoy recently asked about his new land at 684 Leonhardt Road. He was walking it and found an old foundation and hearth with 1791 etched on a stone. GK will research this request.

b. Old- None.

5. Old Business

- a. CPA grant for Town Hall cupola restoration. The commission was informed by the town administrator that the selectboard did not entertain a motion to provide a letter of support for the commissions application for CPA funds to rebuild and re-install the old grammar school cupola on the town hall roof. They cited concerns with the engineering costs and long-term maintenance issues. It was suggested that we get on an upcoming BOS agenda and see if we can provide more information on the engineering and construction requirements. Including the engineer and/or architect we have consulted would be helpful. JG will contact them to see if they are willing to attend an upcoming BOS meeting.
- b. Museum labels/captions for portraits in Community Room. RF has framed these and will get them up in the near future. The tables and chairs are still in the way, there is a plan to move them into the closets in the Community Room but much

moving and organizing have to occur before that happens. The trophy case will also be moved.

- c. Historical Facts update with portrait information. SJ will get the portrait information uploaded to the website in the near future.
- d. Historic Building Plaques; GPS Software; Copy of the 1776 map: No report. JG will contact TS to see if he wants JG to take over the building plaques item.

6. New Business

- a. Renovation of Historical Commission office. Anyone available to put the office back together will meet Thursday, February 16 at 9am. Note that this is not a posted meeting of the Becket Historical Commission, the only purpose is to set up the office again. No commission business will be discussed.

7. Meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm.

8. Next meeting – Mar. 14 at 5:00 PM, Becket Town Hall

Minutes submitted by John Garvey, clerk