

TOWN of BECKET
HISTORICAL COMMISSION Minutes

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

TOWN HALL - (413) 623-89334

FAX- (413) 623-6036

Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Meeting Time: 3:00 PM

Meeting: Historical Commission office, Becket Town Hall

Present: Rita Furlong, Katherine Hoak, Sandi Jarvis and Gail Kusek

Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM on the second Tuesday of the month.
2. The minutes of September, 2018 were unanimously approved.
3. Rita, treasurer, reported that the balance in the account is \$2,017. We haven't yet received a transfer of funds from the town. The one expenditure that was made was \$30. for locks for the display cases which are now in the hallway.
4. Communications
 - a. Old (nothing reported)
 - b. New
Rita sent postcards we had had to the locations they were from, i.e. Dalton & Washington D.C., and received a nice thank you from Dalton Historical Commission; and returned, unable to deliver from Washington D.C. post office
5. Old Business
 - a. 21 Maple Street property research
The town wants to make a long-range plan, so we need to wait on the benches we had wanted to put in place there. Rita and the Park Commission have been cleaning up that area, now ridden with poison ivy! The bench layers need to be moved near the river. Perhaps the plaque we'd like to be

- placed there could be put on the boulder there. Discussion to be continued.
- b. Display cases: we voted to reimburse Rita for the locks she purchased. We agreed that some of the artifacts currently in the case in the Becket Room could be brought downstairs and put in the display cases.
 - c. Office organization—to be continued
 - d. New members—to be continued
 - e. Plan of action—to be continued
6. New Business
- a. Demolition sign—off for 2089 Jacobs Ladder Road—OK with us.
 - b. We received receipts for wood hangers from Sylvia and Dennis Gargan that are dated February & September 1912. We'll treat them for mold and then put them in mylar.
 - c. Arts: We have an article from *The Berkshire Eagle*, September 21, 1918, "Dance of the Ages" on Ted Shawn's work.
 - d. We received a notice about a hearing on small-scale solar. There are ramifications in ground-mounted photovoltaic installations because we are a Green Community. We discussed installations on historic properties. There were four public hearing notifications.
 - e. Ofer Zaarur, the owner of the Becket Motel, has in mind making the corner building a place tourist might stop for information. It would be expensive to fix it up, but Mr. Zaarur would be involved with it. There is electricity, but no toilet (a porta-potty could be used, which costs around \$100 monthly.) It had been a garage. Plans are to be determined; there needs to be more fact-finding. We decided to invite Mr. Zaarur to our next meeting on November 13, 2018.
7. We adjourned the meeting at 4:52 PM.
8. The next meeting will be held on November 13th at 3 PM.

Submitted by: Katherine Hoak, Secretary