

Shutesbury Historical Commission
DRAFT Minutes – 11/01/21
(approved 11/22/21)
Virtual Meeting

Meeting start: 7:16 pm.

Commissioners Present: Henry Geddes (Chair), Miriam DeFant, Ezzell Floranina, Greg Caulton, Janice Stone (joined at 7:30 pm)

Commissioners Absent: Mary Lou Conca, Karen Czerwonka

Others: Leslie Bracebridge

Archiving Project: Opportunities for grant funding was discussed. Mass Humanities has a Local History Grant program that supports groups working with historical collections. Research inventory grants help with inventories and cataloguing. Application deadlines are rolling. MBLC offers Preservation Assessment Grants. SHRAB has a Re-granting program that supports small projects. Replacement of storage cabinets is complicated by the holding capacity of the building floor. Some records are in plastic filing bins. Bracebridge noted she has not seen evidence of moisture problems in the plastic boxes. The Commission needs to consult with the Roving Archivist to learn what his recommendations are after visiting the collection.

Meeting Time: The Commission would like to schedule regular meetings on the 1st Monday of the month. This may conflict with another board. The Town Clerk will get back to Geddes in January. She is interested in hearing what the Roving Archivist has to say.

South Brook Conservation Area: Geddes learned his photos were not geo-tagged. He is going to go out and take new ones. Floranina is interested in seeing the property. Stone noted she did not see much evidence of stone groupings on the northern parcel. There are some in the E-3 tract. Commission discussed writing a letter to the Conservation Commission about its findings and recommendations. The SHC may wish to see some trails moved.

Scenic Byways Bylaw: The Commission discussed approaching the PB and ConCom. Stone notes that most bylaws require PB oversight, she wondered if a possible joint HC-PB regulation is possible. She researched examples from other towns last year. Focus of these bylaws is on stone structures in the right of way that are of human origin. Bracebridge indicated that Bill Randall researched this idea many years ago. At that time, many roads in Shutesbury were county roads and were ineligible. There is a map that he created in the late 1990's or early 2000s. These roads were later turned over to the town. DeFant will circulate a draft bylaw. Geddes will email the PB to ask them to put this on their agenda.

Geddes moved to adjourn. Stone seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Miriam DeFant, Secretary, 11/22/21