

BOYLSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting – September 21, 2023

Present: Bruce Filgate, David Bottom, Judy Bottom, Nancy Filgate, Judy Haynes and Patricia Bartram.

Meeting called to Order: 6 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:45 p.m.

Bruce Filgate, chairman, called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the August 17, 2023 minutes. Motion to accept by Nancy and seconded by David. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer: Expenses are on target.

PROJECTS:

Cemetery Consortium: The Consortium has 3,754 memorials managed, 1,137 contributions, 729 edits and is kept up-to-date.

Civil War Veterans at Pine Grove Project: All Civil War veterans in Pine Grove have been identified and are being checked for markers.

Physician's House and MACRIS: Pat Bartram will review current inventory format for MACRIS and prepare a write up to update the fire of the Historic site.

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

Artifact Archives Photographing Project: The digitization and computerization of artifacts continues by Patrick Flanagan. Newer intern Julia is being trained on digitization and preservation.

Revolutionary War Veteran's Project research is ongoing with Pat Bartram, Nancy Filgate, Victoria Triolo, and Judy Haynes. New is Jim Flagg, who will join research team. He is especially interested in the members of the Flagg family who served. Meetings are held weekly.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Community Preservation Committee met September 12 with about 20 residents in attendance. Elaine Jones gave an overview; then questions and answers were taken and attendees could walk to various groups and give input or ask questions. Those in attendance were mostly positive for the "Historic Preservation" of Boylston sites and resources.

Hillside Restoration Project has received a Fuller Foundation grant to redo most of the roof at the Gough House. That is now finished. October 24 at 11 a.m. HRP will have a table outside the Gough House with treats for the under six-year-olds coming by on a Halloween walk.

Boylston Historical Society & Museum continues to put out weekly FFF -Fridays Fascinating Finds articles and these are well received via the website and a long email list. A printed newsletter is receiving finishing touches and will be in the mail very soon. BHSM will be participating in the holiday event with treats for the under six-year-olds coming by on a Halloween walk which is being sponsored by the Boylston Parks and Recreation dept. BHSM will host an Open House and serve cider and donuts on September 30, Fall Fest. Julia and others will dress in historic garb. Paul Marrone will speak on 'Women of the Valley' October 22.

Boylston's Master Plan Steering Committee They will be meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

HISTORIC TOWN HALL – Parts were ordered and fixed in restrooms. We have requested that the roof be assessed by Bob Bourassa for repairs and a plan for replacement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Publication of Boylston Historical Series. BHSM has sold the last copy and requests have been coming in to BHSM to purchase this book. BHC has located a bindery Working Books West Brookfield. Appointment has been made to obtain quote.

Old Burial Ground Restoration Project. BHC to contact Steve Mero to determine if his crew can help with a restoration project.

BHSM has received a quote of \$99/month for internet service. Need to evaluate benefit to town. Could the Commission share the cost with the BHSM? To be considered. Security will need to be such that the one in use by researchers does not impact the one used for Past Perfect and digitizing our archival materials.

Next Meeting: October 19, 2023

Respectfully submitted, Judith Haynes