

## Historical Commission Meeting

Minutes for January 29, 2018, 5 PM

*Approved at the 2/28/18 meeting*

### Shutesbury Town Hall – Community Lounge downstairs

Members Present: Miriam DeFant, Karen Czerwonka, Christopher Donta, Janice Stone, James Schilling-Cachet, Mary Lou Conca (Associate).

Members Absent: Kristin Van Patten, Henry Geddes.

1. Approve minutes from 12/4/17 meeting. Jim made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Chris seconded. All voted in favor.
2. CPA Committee updates. Chris, as representative for the Historical Commission, explained the CPA process. They had a meeting last week, but did not have a quorum, so rescheduled to February. Janice asked him to check on status of the cemetery (gravestone restoration) project at the next meeting. Miriam suggested that maybe next year the Commission can consider applying for a CPA grant.
3. Website working group updates. Miriam handed out some suggestions for tasks and goals for this group, which the Commission as a whole discussed. Goal 1 is to make the Historical Commission more accessible to town residents and researchers. Goal 2 is to create online digital resources for researchers that are accurate and current. Group discussed materials and sources for information. Janice suggested the Commission arrange the visit to the Old Town Hall to see what materials are there. Janice will check with Leslie on a date and time. Miriam has some documents, will look for more. Should the website list contact info for all members, or just to the site or Chair? Could we provide short news items on what we are working on, events coming up (such as Memorial Day event at Quabbin)?
4. Planning discussion regarding meeting with former Commissioners. Group discussed several items to ask the former Commissioners about, such as the Quabbin Memorial Day event, an annual meeting requirement, what kind of materials are available about history of the town, and meeting with Joan Hanson about Friends of the Historical Commission. Also, to thank them for their service. Maybe a simple tea or coffee get-together. Commission discussed possible times and dates, and decided to plan on Thursday March 15th at 1 PM. More details will be worked on at next meeting.
5. Time permitting: Further discussion regarding next steps for Native American ceremonial sites preservation. There will be more discussion in the future. Eventually the group might apply for a CPA grant to help with data/research gathering. Miriam told Jim to ask Rolf if he wants to come and work with the Commission on this.
6. Unanticipated business. Miriam mentioned that she has purchased two DVDs on Native American sites and historical preservation. One is called "Hidden Landscapes". She offered to lend them to members, or to set up a time to show one or the other to the group and any other interested people. Group will decide at next meeting when to schedule the viewing. There was a question about the monument on the town common

(near the bench). It is inscribed "Scaticook Indian 1735". Apparently in the 1980s someone paid to place it there. The inscription is not accurate, and the group would like to know more history about it. Veronica Moulton might have been involved. Janice will check with Kathy Carey about this and Veronica's papers.

7. Next meeting date. Miriam will check with Henry and Kristin and then the rest of the group to find possible dates, since some schedules have changed. (*Later determined to be Wed. 2/28/18 at 4:30 PM.*)

8. Adjournment. Janice made the motion, seconded by Jim, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Janice Stone, Secretary  
Shutesbury Historical Commission

List of Documents used at Meeting:

1. Agenda for this meeting.
1. Draft minutes of 12/4/17 meeting.
2. Handout from Miriam "Website Updating Project" (2 pgs).