

## Historical Commission Meeting

Minutes for March 15, 2018, 2:00 PM

*Approved at the 5/7/18 meeting*

### Shutesbury Town Hall – Community Lounge downstairs

Members Present: Miriam DeFant, Karen Czerwonka, Christopher Donta, Henry Geddes, Kristin Van Patten, Janice Stone.

Members Absent: James Schilling-Cachet, Mary Lou Conca (Associate).

Visitors: Joan Hanson (Friends of Historical Commission), Leslie Bracebridge.

The Annual Meeting of the Shutesbury Historical Commission started following an Appreciation Reception for Former Historical Commissioners from 1-2pm. It was a pleasant time (with plenty to eat), and the Commission thanks the people for attending.

1. Announcements. Miriam mentioned an email which Jim sent but was not to be made public. She wanted to remind all members that any information sent to the Historical Commission and its members is a public document.

Commissioners discussed a few books of possible interest about Native American history. Janice asked about the book "An Indigenous People's History of the United States" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, presently being read by an Odyssey book store group. Henry suggested "The Common Pot" by Lisa Brooks.

2. Election of Officers. Miriam told the group she is not willing to continue as Chair and asked if anyone was interested in taking it on. No one offered. Members discussed rotating the Chair role each month. Miriam is willing to continue as the "Communication Officer" to manage the website and emails to the Historical Commission and post the agendas. The Chair of the month will facilitate the meetings. At the end of each meeting the Commission will decide who will serve as Chair at the next meeting. Karen made a motion to approve Miriam handling communications as described, and all members will take turns facilitating the monthly meeting as Chair. Miriam seconded, and all voted in favor. Miriam made a motion to continue Janice on as Secretary (although she is happy to turn it over to someone else). Chris seconded, and all voted in favor with one abstention (Janice). Henry volunteered to be the Chair for the April meeting.

3. Updates on Hidden Landscapes video showing. Miriam received permission from the producer to show the Hidden Landscapes film in a public showing. She emailed Doug Harris, who is an important part of this film, to see if he would be able to come and speak and answer questions at the event. If he is not able, perhaps she could contact Lisa Brooks. At the next meeting the Commission needs to pin down a date and speaker, place and equipment. Jim stated that he had a projector and speakers that can be used for this event.

4. Unanticipated Business. Kristin will bring a list of website resources next time, and the Commission can discuss putting them on the Historical Commission website. There might be a few visitors at the next meeting. Robert Decker, about the Bennett House proposal, Susan Millinger about working on research with the Commission, and Rolf (better for another meeting when there is more time).

5. Next meeting dates. April 11th at 4:30 PM. Quabbin Memorial Day Services at Quabbin Park May 27th.

6. Adjournment. Janice made the motion, seconded by Miriam, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Janice Stone, Secretary  
Shutesbury Historical Commission

List of Documents used at Meeting:

1. Agenda for this meeting.
2. Historical Commission Bylaws (handed out by Leslie).