

## **Historical Commission Meeting**

**Minutes for June 18, 2018, 4:30 PM**

*Approved at the 7/30/18 meeting*

### **Shutesbury Town Hall – Community Lounge downstairs**

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

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

Visitor: John Walters, Montague Rd

1. Review of film event. Chris Donta was the Chair of this meeting. All who attended thought it went well, with a decent number of people coming from town and surrounding area. Good question and answer period following film. Miriam will work on getting the invoice from Mr. Harris for his participation and working on the paperwork with the Town Administrator to get it processed for payment. Commission discussed again the idea of the MOU, as was discussed at the film event. Mr. Harris and the Narragansett tribe are in the forefront on this. Miriam went to a tribal conference for Historical Commissions a few years ago and got a lot of information. She will create a dropbox for the Commissioners to be able to view this material. Town Counsel may have some concerns about the Historical Commission signing an MOU on behalf of the town. Need to discuss that more with her. Commissioners discussed drafting a letter to DCR telling them about our concern for protection of historical and cultural landscape structures during the proposed forest cutting in Shutesbury. Miriam stated the Commission should send a letter to the tribal historic offices first, explaining our interests and concerns, and if they are interested, to contact us. Mr. Walters suggested including help in identifying "possible sites" in town to be verified later.

2. Discussion about potential CPC projects. The deadline for applications this year is in November. First step in application process is for the committee to determine if the proposed project is eligible, then comes a later decision to recommend or not. Commission discussed possible projects, such as digitizing historical records so they can be preserved, and more available to the public online. Perhaps some project about CSL? Is there an appropriate non-profit group that could assist Shutesbury in identifying potential sites? Doug Harris was starting his own non-profit to do this type of work, but it isn't ready yet. Eva Gibavic's group CSLR (Ceremonial Stone Landscape Restoration) might be a possibility. John Walters suggested the Historical Commission send out a letter to all property owners, asking them to self-report potential sites. It would help to start collecting community information. Commission felt it was important to get in contact with the tribes first. Miriam will check with Kristin about the digitizing work.

3. Unanticipated business at time of posting. Commission discussed the letter from Jim stating that he was resigning from the Historical Commission. They discussed putting a notice onto the town website asking for letters of interest for a replacement. Janice and Karen gave a little summary of the Memorial Day ceremony at Quabbin Park Cemetery. Unfortunately, the weather was wet, so they did not use the banner, but did march in the parade. Miriam will reach out to Eva Gibavic about the DCR walk and contact Lisa McLaughlin (Northfield Historical and Nolumbeka) about coming to talk to the Historical Commission. Janice will check on keys for the West School House and Old Town Hall. Next meeting scheduled for July 23, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

4. Adjournment. Karen made the motion, seconded by Chris, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Janice Stone, Secretary  
Shutesbury Historical Commission

List of Documents used at Meeting:

1. Agenda for this meeting.
2. Copy of James Schilling-Cachet's letter of resignation to Selectboard and Commission