

**Shutesbury Historical Commission**  
**Minutes – 11/22/1**  
**(approved 12/06/21)**  
*Virtual Meeting*

**Meeting start:** 5:35 pm.

**Commissioners Present:** Henry Geddes (Chair), Miriam DeFant, Greg Caulton, Karen Czerwonka, Janice Stone

**Commissioners Absent:** Ezzell Floranina, Mary Lou Conca

**Approved Minutes:**

**4/28/21 Minutes, Motion to approve: DeFant, Second: Caulton; passed 4/1, Czerwonka abstained.**

**10/19/21: will postpone approving minutes until there is a quorum of attendees.**

**10/27/21: Motion to approve: Geddes; Second: Caulton; passed 4/1, Czerwonka abstained.**

**11/1/21: Motion to approve: Geddes; Second: Caulton; passed 4/1, Czerwonka abstained.**

**Repair of Town Common Guideboard:** The guideboard is in need of repair. Stone is investigating possible painters to do the repairs and hand-lettering. She will write up a standard services description and has a draft from the war memorial project. DeFant knows a painter and will reach out to see if she is interested. Discussion about funding sources, including requesting CPA funds for a small repair grant. DeFant will put together a draft preliminary CPA Eligibility Determination Request. Stone has a contact from the Montague Historical Society that did a similar project. Proposal to be reviewed at the 12/6/21 HC meeting.

**South Brook Conservation Area mapping:** Geddes took a walk on the property but could not find the pink flagging for the proposed mountain bike trail. He took photos which he is sharing with Eva Gibavic. He saw someone out using a 4-wheeler when he was there. Geddes will send a letter to the ConCom about consulting on the project.

**Old Town Hall SHC Collection Archiving:** The SHC recently received a follow-up email from Tom Doyle, the SHRAB Roving Archivist. Caulton and Bracebridge have not been able to do any further work on inventorying the collection. For grant applications, the Commission will need more info about the quantity of materials, including linear feet of files. Caulton will consult with Bracebridge about possible materials needed for the closet in case the Commission wishes to apply for grants to support the effort. DeFant indicated she would like to work on a grant application for January.

**FY21 Annual Report:** A draft of the report has been distributed. The Commission is missing minutes for 8/27/20. It is unclear if that meeting ever took place as no one seems to have any notes or recollection. Outstanding minutes need to be prepared before the final draft of the Annual Report can be finalized. DeFant requested assistance with this task. Geddes volunteered

to get access to Zoom recordings and work on minute drafts. The goal will be to approve these minutes in December and finalize the Annual Report.

**Letter from MHC about Solar Projects:** MHC recently sent a letter to the SHC. The letter was a copy of correspondence sent to AMP Solar Development, Inc., indicating the requirement that the applicant apply for an archaeological permit to assess all seven project areas in Shutesbury, Pelham, and Amherst, due to the cumulative impacts of the multiple projects. It is unclear where the applicants are at with this process.

**Scenic Roads Bylaw:** The Commissioners discussed the idea of proposing a town bylaw for the protection of scenic roads that are protected under state law. Many towns have these kinds of bylaws which protect trees and stone walls in the public-right-of-way on town roads. The bylaws usually create a process whereby a town board, usually the Planning Board, reviews and approves changes in the right-of-way and Town Meeting designates which roads are to be termed “scenic.” Stone has been researching this kind of bylaw for a number of years. Such bylaws help to protect the rural nature of small towns such as Shutesbury. If it chose to go forward, the SHC would hope to work collaboratively with the Planning Board, Open Space Committee, and Conservation Commission. DeFant has been working on a draft proposal and will share for the next meeting.

**Geddes: Motion to Adjourn; Second: Caulton, passed 5/0**

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

**Documents Used:**

- Agenda
- Draft minutes for 10/19, 10/27, and 11/1/21
- Email from Tom Doyle, Roving Archivist
- Letter from MHC

Next Meeting: 12/6/21 @ 7 pm

**Items for next meeting:**

- Approve minutes and Annual Report
- Review CPC proposal
- Discuss Scenic Roads Bylaw
- Archiving update

*Respectfully submitted by Miriam DeFant, 12/6/21*