

Sterling Historical Commission Meeting 11-17-2016 6pm
1835 Town Hall

Attending Meeting: Carol LaVigne, Jim French, Vern Gaw, Dave Gibbs, Bob Jones, Cathy Harragian

Meeting Minutes: 9-26 Meeting minutes approved.

Budget: Plaque for Rittenhouse property is ready and needs to be paid for.
\$200 is cost of repair at the West Sterling Schoolhouse. Also \$200 to be reimbursed to C Harragian for framing. Estimate need of \$75 to get a locksmith to open cabinet in the town hall,
Bob Jones made motion for this, 2nd by Carol LaVigne. Approved by committee

Farmstead Survey: Survey is being processed. The survey will be put on 1835 Town Hall website by Mid December. A few hard copies will be printed for distribution.

1835 Town Hall Historic Concerns:

In a combined meeting of the 1835 committee and Tom Rutherford, discussion of exposing all roof beams in the 1835 Town Hall for assessment. A project list has been compiled to use to make a bid proposal. Ann, acting town administrator is to do this. Potential matching funds of up to \$300,000 from a development grant from the Mass Cultural Facility Fund is available.

Public Forum in 2017: The forum will emphasis the success of historic preservation in Sterling. Collaboration with other community organizations such as OSIC (the open space implementation committee) was suggested.

Historic Properties: Discussion of a demolition delay proposal for the next town meeting took place. Threaten properties in Sterling discussed were the Wronski barn, 1850 Gun Shop, the Sterling Inn. The West Sterling Schoolhouse needs are foundation repair, accessibility, bathroom and MPPF money.

Other Grant Possibilities: MGF Fund, Capital Grant, ADA accessibility grant.

Jim French made a motion for Carol LaVigne to request a planning and capital grant from the MGFF. 2nd by David Gibbs. Voted in favor by ayes. Carol will email the commissions intent to apply for this grant.

Old Business: Vern Gaw will go to town hall to get historic town record documents.

Next meeting, December 21st 6pm.

Motion to end meeting made by Bob Jones, 2nd Jim French