

Meeting of the Sterling Historical Commission 8/25/2016 6pm

Present: Vern Gaw, Jim French, Carol LaVigne, Cathy Harragian and guest, David Gibbs

Current Business:

1. Discussion of listed artifacts. David Gibbs, Curator Sterling Historical Society will be contacted about any transfers of artifacts.
2. For expense reimbursement, forms may be picked up at Sterling Town Hall.
3. Decision was made to create a plaque for the Rittenhouse property. The cost is not to exceed \$100. Motion made by J French, 2nd C LaVigne
4. Minutes from previous meeting were approved. Motion made by J French, 2nd C Harragian
5. Discussion of the mission of the Historical Commission:
Some ideas are as follows:
 - Preserve all historical buildings in Sterling
 - Raise public awareness of why historical preservation is important
 - Include historical landscapes under the umbrella of historical preservation in Sterling
 - "Preserve the past for the future"

Old Business:

1. Cemetery Project: Look for a work crew to restore Legg cemetery graveyard. This is a very visible project that raises public awareness about the need for historic preservation
2. 1835 elevator lift: Solution to outside elevator placement, is to use a cage lift in the existing stairwell. This will provide access to upstairs events for handicapped participants.
3. Farmstead survey: Bob is compiling integrated scans
4. Historic properties: Historic artifacts in 1835 Town hall need to be inventoried.
5. Kristoff property: DCR has not responded to our requests for the former pig farm property letter.
6. Stillwater River property: Concern about the weak condition of the barn on this property was raised. As the commission, we do not want to see the loss of another barn in Sterling.
7. Carol LaVigne suggested MPPF grants be used for purchasing historical signs.

Next meeting scheduled for September 22, 6pm, 1835 Town hall, Sterling, Ma

Motion to end meeting made by V Gaw, 2nd J French