

Meeting of the Sterling Historical Commission

May 11, 7pm, 2016

Location: 1835 Town Hall

Present at meeting: Bob McKay Jones, Jim French, Carol LaVigne, Cathy Harragian, and guest David Gibbs

Current Business:

Cathy Harragian nominated as recorder of meetings.

Budget: The budget contains \$1000. Motion made by Bob McKay to get a table, costing up to \$300 for the new office space in the 1835 Town Hall. The room was formerly used by the Veterans as their office. The motion was passed to get the table.

Historical Buildings discussed were the Gun Shop, the Sterling Inn, and the West Sterling School House

Ideas were discussed for fund raising to fix up the West Sterling School house

- a. Contact Yahoo
- b. Contact a masonry contractor
- c. Discussion on forming a nonprofit "Friends of the West Sterling Schoolhouse" to manage and provide repairs for the schoolhouse.
- d. Open house for the West Sterling Schoolhouse to be held June 11th 10-1pm
- e. Discussion to approach selectmen about forming the Friends of the West Sterling Schoolhouse
- f. Jim French is going to approach the Historical Society about having the West Sterling schoolhouse brought under the aegis of the Historical Society

Carol began a conversation about what the 'actual historic district' means and it's significance to Sterling. Potential meeting with a historic expert and no demolition bylaw topics were discussed.

David Gibbs brought up 1835 Town Hall issues. Issues discussed were building repair issues: the roof tiles and access to the building. Discussion included collecting donations for 1835 Town Hall/ Mike Slezic, process for getting funds through town hall meeting with selectmen, and the time frame for proposing roof repairs.

Discussion of contacting the DPW about the conditions of the cemeteries in town. Acquiring a map will help with gravestone repair. Commonwealth Compact will be contacted.

Historical Signage: Get 8 historical wooden signs that Vern has, installed at locations.

New Business: Ask Selectmen to raise allocation for budget by Dec 28th, 2016 to \$5000.

Scheduled Meetings: Next meeting June 22, 7pm at 1835 Town Hall. Meetings to tentatively be scheduled for the 4th Wednesday of every month.

Meeting is adjourned