

Meeting of the Sterling Historical Commission June 23rd, 2016, 6pm

Location: 1835 Town Hall, Main St, Sterling, Ma

Present: Vern Gaw, Bob McKay Jones, Jim French Carol LaVigne, Cathy Harragian. Guest David Gibbs

Current Business:

1. Signed receipt for table
2. Funded \$200 for window repair. Motion made by R McKay, 2nded by C Lavigne
3. Member Application: Dave Gibbs added to Historical Commission. Motion made by R McKay, 2nded by J French
4. Discussion of mission statement for Historical Commission. Suggested reading of Massachusetts Historical Society website for members of commission.
5. Farmstead Survey: Discussion of scanning of pictures that accompany text. Discuss the use of community college graphic artist students to copy photos. Copies of the farmstead survey are available at the library and town hall. Action: Bob will report back after reviewing images.
6. Kristoff Piggery discussion: The type of preservation of the DCR owned former Kristoff pig farm was addressed. A list of the commissions requests for preservation are as follows:
Remediate hazards, preserve boilers and cookers and building foundations, maps and signage with gps app for information. Personal history of Kristoff family and farm. Vern Gaw will compose letter to be sent to DCR. Bob McKay will contact Kristoff family members.
7. Historic Markers. Vern will cut sizes. Signs are in the Selectman's room. The signs are to be installed by the end of summer.
8. Motion made to protect and then hang up the paintings of Lord Stirling and Prentice Mellen in the main hall of the 1835 Town Hall. Motion C. Harragian will call Gold Swan Framing for ball park estimate.
9. Minutes from May meeting approved.

New Business:

1. Chocksett Cemetery concern: Abutting property to the cemetery, owned by the Crosby family is up for sale. It is 6.8 acres on market for \$150,000.
2. C LaVigne is pursuing grant money for the Grange Hall in Sterling: conservation partnership grant and CPA fund suggested.
3. West Sterling Schoolhouse project: The open house was well attended. A non profit group set up for property maintenance is recommended.
4. Rittenhouse barn is being restored by owner
5. Brief discussion of preservation award.

Meeting is adjourned: Motion made by C Harragian, 2nded by R McKay.