

## **Adams Historical Commission Meeting Minutes**

**August 17, 2022**

**4 P.M. @ Adams Town Hall**

**8 Park St. Adams, Mass.**

**The Adams Historical Commission meeting commenced at 4:03 p.m. The following members were present:**

**Ryan Biros, Eugene Michalenko, Jodi Fijal and Susan Denault. Commission member Bruce Dumouchel was absent.**

**The first order of business was to appoint the following members for different positions. They are as follows:**

**Chair – Ryan Biros**

**Eugene Michalenko – Vice Chair**

**Recording Secretary – Susan Denault**

**Each appointment was motioned and seconded.**

**Rebecca Ferguson from the Adams Community Development office gave an update on the status of making necessary repairs to the Quaker meeting House on Valley St. Ian Stewart, a private contractor from Nassau, NY has completed a preliminary study of the meeting house to assess the needs for the building's preservation. She commented that currently there is \$10,000 available for those needs.**

**Susan Denault mentioned that the Circuit Rider from the Mass. State Historic Preservation Office in Boston should be contacted to see if they can help with suggestions for additional or matching funds.**

**Susan Denault inquired about the status of the Hoosac Valley Coal & Grain park project.**

**Susan Denault asked what is the current Commission's budget for the year. Ryan Biros informed members that it is \$450.00.**

**Ryan Biros and Eugene Michalenko brought up pursuing storage space for the Historical Commission's records and other related items. It was mentioned that there are Town historical records located at the old Town Hall on Park St., now currently occupied by the**

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**Northern Berkshire Registry of Deeds. The records are being stored in the basement of the building. Ryan suggested that the Commission should set up a meeting with the Registrar, Maria Ziemba to look at the records. Potential storage locations were made, the Adams Visitors' Center and the Old Adams Middle School. There was also a discussion about the potential digitization of those records.**

**Also under new business, Susan Denault mentioned the possibility of finding a college intern to update the Adams Historic Resource inventory that was done over 30 years ago. The purpose would be to document if buildings are still there, have since been torn down or modified. Also to update any information on the forms.**

**Susan Denault had mentioned if the Commission was familiar with the Demolition delay ordinance that many Berkshire County towns and Cities (Pittsfield, North Adams, Great Barrington and Lenox) have implemented to document buildings and structures that are slated to be torn down. Ms. Denault informed the commission that if there is a demolition delay ordinance in place the Commission and other town agencies would have to review documentation submitted by the owner or contractor who is going to tear the building down. The process is to determine if the building is historically and/or architecturally significant. Ms. Denault would provide examples of those ordinances currently in place in Berkshire County.**

**None of the commission members had anything else to add to the meeting. The next meeting was planned for September 21, 2022.**

**The motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.**

**Submitted by**

**Susan Denault, recording Secretary**