

Egremont Historical Commission
Minutes

July 2, 2016 - Attending: Bachelder, Cherin, Snyder, Turner, Wood.

Present: Eileen Vining

1: The minutes for June were approved.

2: An extended discussion on the merits and flaws of the proposed Village and Rural Districts bylaw was had in preparation for the Planning Board's hearing scheduled for July 20th. Mrs. Vining's original BRPC request for lot sizes and set backs was discussed and Mrs. Vining joined in the discussion. Mr. Snyder was clear that there be inclusion of all the Town's historic character in any bylaw, and that it be reflected in our position to the planning board. The Chair will draw up a letter for submission.

3: Healthy Streets - A BRPC/DOT grant initiative is moving ahead. The presence of the historical commission's member on this committee hopefully will keep the idea of sidewalks, lighting and bike lanes that reflect our present rural village character. Mrs. Turner has suggested we engage in developing a Local Historic District and this will be an idea we can continue to review.

4: Gifts to the Archives:

1: Don Howard, of Howard's Antiques has donated a variety of memorabilia from his parents' antique store formerly located in the "Smithy shop" at #2 Sheffield/Egremont Road.

2: Nancy Kuntz has donated architectural drawings and items of interest from her collection of working papers. Mrs. Kuntz's body of mid 20th century architectural work has been accepted into Historic New England's reference library.

3: The North Egremont Baptist Church records that were given to the Town by the North Egremont Baptist Church have been relocated to the archives at One Buttonball Lane, where they will be catalogued, re-folded, filed and boxed using archival methods and materials for future access and reference.

5: Ongoing discussion with the ATC about possible development of tours and their plans for expansion. Mrs. Vining has served the Chair with a Freedom of Information request asking for all notes and correspondence between this Commission and the ATC. We will turn over this question to Town Counsel for review.

6: It was brought to the Chair's attention that the conversations between ourselves and the Sustainability Coordinator lacked a degree of cordiality we both agree needs to be fostered going forward.

With no further business before it, the meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

S.P. Bachelder, Acting Secretary