

**MINUTES TO MEETING****MEETING DATE:** 4/11/22 @ 10:00 AM**ATTENDEES:** Rebecca Turner, Barbara Kalish, Abigail Rogers-McKee, Douglas Cooper, Beth Wood, Richard Burdsall, Francis Nestor**DISTRIBUTION:** Attendees, town website, Bill Wood**LOCATION:** Zoom

Discussion		Action By/Date
1.	<b>General</b>	
a.	3/7/22 minutes – duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved	
2.	<b>New Business</b>	
	a.. Scholar's dinner: Agenda will focus on local characters involved in the constitutional convention and their impact on the future of the country. Charles Taylor, <u>History of Great Barrington</u> and Shays Rebellion, the "Farmers Coup" b.. Sheffield HC will be happy to meet with EHC informally to discuss topics of mutual interest and share information.	DC
a.	Upcoming Town Meetings as appropriate based on posted agenda	EHC - On-Going
3.	<b>EHC Focus for 2022</b>	On-going
4.	1. Demo Delay - DC 2. MACRIS 3. Oral History Project – BK/RB 4. Archives – RT 5. Website update – FN with support from Carolyn Alexander	
6.	<b>Website</b>	
a.	EHC members to review website and forward comments on revisions by FN	EHC
b.	Added link to OHP and upload interviews currently in the computer archives	FN 5/2
c.	Carolyn to create a draft of the upgrades	FN
d.	Previous interviews are currently available in the EHC computer	FN
7.	<b>Academy Building Structural stabilization and ADA upgrade</b>	
a.	EHC to use this opportunity to revamp exhibition	
b.	EHC to retain an archivist to assist with organization of the archives. RT to identify potential consultants. RT to reach out to Margaret Cherin for a proposal and schedule	RT
c.	Construction: reference architects site notes	
d.	No concerns at this time relative to the safety of the collection, office secured, drop clothes employed on vitrines	
8.	<b>MACRIS Phase 5</b>	
a.	Schedule – On track 11/21: Start work 6/22: Complete work	LA/RT
b.	Beth Wood edit reviewed and edited the current MACRIS material. RT to advise consultant 1. Errors and omissions noted 2. BW will continue review & coordinate final draft w/ RT 3. Approx 100 years of history missing 4. Ephraim Baldwin house: EB was the agent, he did not live there. House was originally in Hampshire County before there was a Berkshire County & deed records are recorded there.	RT
c.	Look at adding Campground to future MACRIS	
9.	<b>Egremont Newsletter</b>	BK 3/29
a.	Future article ideas 1. Shun Toll road – early way round to avoid paying the toll a. Owner: Neal and Rene Goff, 304 Egremont Plain Road, 917-541-4034 b. House has been moved c. Old Mill 2. Jug End 3. Prospect Lake 4. Pinecrest Hill 5. Kenver 6. Col. Smiley	

10.	<b>Archive collection/organization/layout</b>	1/2022
a.	EHC to discuss revised goals, program and plans for the archives	On-going
b.	RT developed a dimensioned floor plan of the archive room. Will add dimensions	RT 7/7/21
8.	<b>Demolition delay by-law</b>	On-going
a.	Strategy 1. It was unanimously agreed that the DD bylaw will be considered a general bylaw 2. Lessons learned from previous attempts at creating a Demo Bylaw – Bill Wood/Beth Wood 3. Reach out to Lenox HC for advice and lessons learned	BW/EW/DC RT
b.	Major Concerns: Are we losing our historic houses 1. Buildings of historic significance will be renovated to a degree that no historic value will remain, ref. Salem Ma. DD. RT to send slides 2. Definition of demolition – what % or how to describe the extent of demo that triggers the DD bylaw 3. Buildings at risk a. Jug End – owned by Mass Fish and Wildlife, buildings documented in MACRIS b. Cong. Church c. Baldwin Hill homes d. N. Eg. School e. Pinecrest Hill homes f. Prospect Lake Camp Ground – property was sold in January 2022 – EHC to obtain plans for use of the property  <a href="https://www.berkshireeagle.com/real-estate/berkshire-county-real-estate-transactions-for-jan-17-21/article_495d7f9a-83c3-11ec-ae2-b75508eeafb7.html">https://www.berkshireeagle.com/real-estate/berkshire-county-real-estate-transactions-for-jan-17-21/article_495d7f9a-83c3-11ec-ae2-b75508eeafb7.html</a>	RT 3/7
c.	Resources: Elliot Snyder (528 3581) has much experience and is knowledgeable about procedure	DC
d.	DC to define the legal process with the help perhaps of ES or Eileen Vining	DC
9.	<b>Oral History Project</b>	Bk/RB
a.	Develop list of potential interviewees 1. Richard Burdsall – read and tape stories, interview by BK 2. Fay Wood – to be contacted by BK 3. Craig Elliot – Tales from the General Store and other stories – interview by BK/RB	June
b.	Town Hall is available by appointment for interviews	
c.	Release form – BK to forward to Juliette Haas for review and comment	BK 5/2
10.	<b>Jug End State Reservation – Guilder Homestead</b>	
a.	Write letter to DOCR/Fish and Game/MHC requesting an opportunity to utilize the site for historic and recreational purposes and maintain the history of the buildings and site, request advice from MHC 1. Letter dated 4/1/22. 2. No response from DCR 3. Response from MHC 4. DCR to conduct additional research focusing on native American ties to this property. John Van Guilder, a native American, was the original owner of the estate and married into the Karner family. May have belonged to the Mohican tribe. This probably triggered the review and delay to demolition. 5. EHC to use this time to develop options for creating an informative and recreational site, reusing foundations and gardens. 6. Committee formed to brainstorm a way to save the site and create a positive educational opportunity. 7. Sub-committee: DC, FN, BK – zoom meeting 4/14 @ noon 8. BK to post photos 9. Resources: Mary McGurn, Eileen Vining, Beth Wood	
b.	Create alliances with the BoS and other town initiatives similar to the River Walk	
c.	Engage DCR/F+W	
11.	<b>Future Outreach</b>	
a.	Develop a local out reach program to inform the community of our mission/activities/etc.	On-going
b.	Reach out to citizens for volunteers to support some of the initiatives that are more Society oriented rather than Commission oriented	
c.	Coffee, Tea and History 1. History of April Hill – presentation by Will Conklin	BK 1/2022 RT 1/2022
	2. Prospect lake history in photos and stories – presentation and scrap book	BK 1/2022
	3. 60 Years of the Egremont Garden Club – presentation and scrap book	AM 1/2022
d.	Invite Library Trustees to discuss opportunities for collaboration. RT to contact LT chair	On-going
e.	Invite 1-2 representatives from the following neighboring Historical Commissions/Societies for a coffee and cake collaboration session 1. Sheffield – BK to reach out to Sheffield Hist. Comm. and Society	11/21

	2. Stockbridge 3. Mt Washington 4. New Marlboro	
12.	<b>2022 Town Birthday Party</b>	
a.	Venues 1. Coord with Friends of Prospect Lake to do joint event? 2. Town Hall Lawn	
b.	Date: Weekend of 8/27 - EHC to coord with Friends of Prospect Lake. RT to reach out to Marj	RT
c.	Goal: increase involvement and attendance	
13.	<b>Future Initiatives</b>	
a.	COVID-19 historical record for archives	RT On-going
b.	Attendees agreed that the EH should reach out to residents to collect stories and personal accounts of the COVID-19 epidemic and how it affected Egremont. RT will circulate a draft post for outreach to the community via social media. Out-reach should include Egremont residents, teachers and others involved with the town.	BK
c.	Promotion of EHC – Coffee/Tea and History	BK
d.	Outreach and Strategic Alliances	BK
e.	Grants: EHC to investigate grant opportunities	
f.	Create a historically appropriate feature or informational sign at the library	
g.	EHC Newsletter: For distribution annually: EHC will create a short news report about the events of the past year and plans for the coming year	DC
h.	EHC Mission Statement – on hold Local Genealogy – on hold	
i.	This is on hold until we see the progress plans for the new site design.	On hold
14.	<b>Next Meeting</b>	
a.	Next Meeting: Mon. 5/2/22 @ 10AM via zoom	
b.	<b>End of minutes</b>	
c.	Submitted: 5/13/22 by Barbara Kalish	