



HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF MILFORD

Memorial Hall, School Street
Milford, MA 01757



Chairman Robert Andreola called the October 11, 2023 meeting of the Milford Historical Commission to order at 7 pm in Memorial Hall. Motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Scott Wilson, seconded by Ron Marino. Motion was unanimous.

Bob reported that the balance in our budget is \$1,838.12 after our purchases.

Bob extended an invitation from Jennifer Doherty, Local Government Programs Coordinator, to attend a virtual program sponsored by Mass Historic. It will encourage preservation and protection of our historical buildings. Bob also explained the federally funded, reimbursable, 50/50 matching grant program for fiscal year 2024.

We completed a Cybersecurity Exercise this month.

Town Administrator, Rick Villani, requested information on the Purchase Street Hose House, known as Hose 4. Mr. Villani is requesting money at Town Meeting to repair the building. Bob replied with the history of the building and when I went there to take a picture, they said that they were expecting someone from the Historical Commission to be there.

Scott made our scanned documents searchable. The Blue Binders, the index of Robin Philbin's pictures and the inventory of articles in the museum are now searchable.

We purchased an external drive (4 Terabytes) to download our files.

We will post a sign "No Pictures Allowed in the Museum."

Bob S. said there is an interesting article relating the details of the vestibule noting who designed the marble tablets, etc. We will post the information in the future.

MACRIS, (Massachusetts Cultural Information System), was explained by Anne. We are a Historical Commission, whose duty it is to list historical homes and buildings on the State Inventory. We have over 600 buildings listed, thanks to Lyn Lovell. It is our responsibility to identify, preserve and protect our historical buildings in order to preserve our heritage. The file is available by researching MACRIS.

Milford's Historical Commission is an exception to the rule, We moved into a building with Town artifacts, primarily Civil War items, stored in the attic, and were given permission by the Selectmen to display them. Milford doesn't have a Historical Society, as most towns do, so we accept items for display that pertain to the town's past.

The Blue Binders need to be renumbered, and a new index printed before we add the scanned documents. Marsha and Bill finished mounting and displaying the numerous photos that Robin donated.

Ron displayed the Navy trunk that belonged to BM1 James Hugh Fex alongside the Army trunk.

Donations this month were two books by Ernest Bragg on the Boot & Shoe Industry, donated by the West Springfield Library, a tin type of Everett Arnold and School Street pictures from Charles Purinton and four Foster Forbes bottles from Lynn LeBlanc.

We gave Robin Philbin a copy of the index listing of the 3,400 "TV" (Town View) pictures that he gave us on CDs which he appreciated. Thanks go to Scott & Marsha for creating the file.


The alarm company changed batteries this month.

Our Annual Open House will be an Antique Appraisal Day on Sunday, November 5, from 1 – 4 p.m. Eric Mulak, Vice President of Eldred's Auction House will be featured.

Veteran's Day the Museum will be open to visitors for a couple of hours after the parade.

Motion to adjourn was made by Anne at 8 p.m., seconded by Ron. Motion was unanimous. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, November 8 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Commissioners Present

Robert Andreola, Chairman
Robert Samiagio, Treasurer
Anne Lamontagne, Secretary
Pam Fields
Mary Villani
Ron Marino
Scott Wilson

Associate Commissioners

Marcia Mancuso
Bill Farrell
Guests
Joseph Cuddy
Leah Wilson