

EGREMONT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2019 – 10:00 am

Attending: Susan Bachelder, Bill Wood, Rebecca Turner, Stephen Piersanti, Abigail Rogers-McKee, Barbara Kalish, Elliott Snyder

Visiting: Neil Larson, Robert & Alexis Fakelmann

- Meeting minutes from the March meeting have not been submitted.
- **EHC Budget:** Abigail noted that we still had some remaining funds available from this past year's budget and it would need to be spent by June 30th. Any remaining unspent funds would be returned back to the town. She will reach out to the town for an updated financial report to confirm our current available funds.
- **Egremont Heights Sign:** Susan is continuing negotiations with David Mac Neill for removing and relocating the Egremont Heights sign from his property.
- **MACRIS:** Neil Larson met with the commission to discuss the draft MACRIS forms. Rebecca is putting together a list of general comments on the forms and will email them along to Neil. The commission thanks Neil for taking the time to come out and meet in person and is looking forward to putting together the next round of building for updating.
- **Oral History:** Barbara is continuing work on organizing an oral history for the Archives. She would like members of the EHC to email her possible townspeople to add to an interview list so she can get an idea of the scope of the project.
- **EHC Website:** Caroline Alexander has been hired to update and re-establish the EHC website. She is working directly with Stephen for the preliminary content and review of the new site. When the site is ready, she will review the new layout with the commission prior to making it live.
 - In talking about promoting the website, Caroline noted we should think of who would be using it: historians and specialists, general public – both local and state wide, and even tourism boards. We could think about providing cross-promotional links to other commission, historic organizations and local business to get our name (and others names) out there.
- **Route 23 Project:** There was further discussion on the route 23 upgrades project. Bill noted that we would have to be very careful with how they lay out the sidewalks and crosswalks as street markings, signage and flashing lights often tied to them could detract from our small-town feel.
- **15 Sheffield Road:** Robert & Alexis Fakelmann met with the commission to review plans they had for their newly purchased home at 15 Sheffield Road. Plantings and over-mulching of beds around their front porch has caused rot and moisture damage. They are interested in pulling out much of the planting and are thinking of regrading the front of the property and adding a low stone wall to help with drainage. The commission suggested that these were fine ideas and suggested that they also review the plans with Ned Baldwin (town building inspector) to ensure that no trench permits or anything of that nature would be required prior to commencing work.
- **Newsletter:** Susan talked about the next newsletter as it will be coming out before the upcoming town meeting.

Next Proposed Meeting: May 4th @ 10:00 am

Submitted by Rebecca Turner, Secretary