

**MINUTES TO MEETING****MEETING DATE:** 1/9/23 @ 1pm**ATTENDEES:** Rebecca Turner, Barbara Kalish, Abigail Rogers-McKee, Francis Nestor, Richard Burdsall, Beth Wood**LOCATION:** Archive Room**DISTRIBUTION:** Douglas Cooper, Attendees, town website

Discussion		Action By/Date
<b>1.</b>	<b>General</b>	
a.	12/12/22 minutes – duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Budget</b>	
a.	EHC to forward budget requests asap	AM
b.	2023/24 MACRIS additional \$1,500 and assessor's records restoration - \$4,500	
c.	Assessor's records have been stored in a storage locker that is not environmentally controlled and have suffered greatly from this exposure.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Membership</b>	
a.	EHC agreed to nominate Beth Wood for membership on the commission	RT
<b>4.</b>	<b>Dirt Roads as Historic Features</b>	
a.	NYT article about dirt roads in Chatham recognizing the historic value of maintaining and protecting local dirt roads. It was agreed that this should be among the local features considered by the EHC.	EHC
<b>5.</b>	<b>Town Birthday Celebration</b>	
a.	EHC discussed selecting a specific project to develop and seeking grant opportunities	EHC
b.	The BoS will create a dedicated committee that can function as a 501C3. EHC will participate	LV BK
c.	Egremont's 250 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Events leading up to the anniversary 1) Historical book club 2) Coord w Cultural Resource Counsel – members (?) 3) Scholars Dinner	BK
<b>6.</b>	<b>Attending MHC meetings:</b> recommendation that we establish a calendar of meetings and take turns attending	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Commemorating the passing of Bill Wood:</b> It was agreed that a plaque on a bench in the new Library Garden would be much appreciated.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Retaining an archivist:</b> EHC to select an archivist. Beth Woods to advise if she can take this on	RT/BW
<b>9.</b>	<b>Congregational Church:</b> EHC to monitor this situation and explore avenues for saving the building	EHC
<b>10.</b>	<b>Grant Opportunities</b>	
a.	EHC forwarded a list of initiatives that might have grant potential to Peg McDonough.	BK
b.	Initiatives to date 1) MACRIS	
c.	Next steps 1) Establish priorities 2) Define a way to manage funding since the Commission is a governmental agency not a 501C3. Possibly partner with another group that is a 501C3 such as the Land Trust 3) Facilitate cross-connections between the EHC and other commissions/committees with similar interests, Land Trust, ConCom, other towns 4) Retain a consultant for the archives, OHP, historical video,	
<b>11.</b>	<b>1770 Beer Stein</b>	
	1. Obtain an appraisal and insurance if warranted – Elliot/Grace Snyder	RT
<b>12.</b>	<b>Van Guilder Estate</b>	
a.	Reach out to DCR/MHC regarding followup from 1/11/22 meeting	BK
b.	BW is working with Bill Flint, a dendrochronologist for accurate dating of the building structure. There may also be some interesting events that took place in the house. Subjects for further study. House may not be the original structure on that foundation.	BW

<b>13.</b>	<b>Demolition Delay Bylaw</b>	
a.	In progress: EHC will review state template and other DD local bylaws. EHC is concerned that the template does not meet our needs and would probably not gain approval. RT to resent Draft Bylaw for	EHC
b.	RT to arrange a meeting with Lenox Historical Commission/Olga Weiss	RT
c.	RT to create a work plan	RT
d.	Prototypes – other towns (ie. Sheffield) used MHC prototype, Stockbridge	
e.	EHC will invite the owner of the Congregational Church to a meeting to discuss potential plans for restoration	BK
f.	RT to forward Congregational Church MACRIS to BK for discussions with Owner	RT
g.	DC reached out to Elliott Snyder to discuss past work on the Bylaw. ES reiterated that a change to the bylaw would require public hearing and the procedure is outlined in MGL Ch. 40A Section 5. Anticipating public objections will be critical for success. In the past this has been done with informal Q&A meetings or survey mailings. DC suggested the possibility of a professionally run focus group. DC to talk with Jared Kelly, Mary Brazie and Juliette Hass to see if the town or other committee’s have used focus groups or something similar.	DC
<b>14.</b>	<b>Academy Renovation</b>	
a.	Currently unconditioned space. Concern for stability of documents etc. in the archives. RT to follow up with the Bos	RT
b.	Schedule for completion : Belfry work to begin again. No date for completion of the belfry	
<b>15.</b>	<b>Community Garden behind Library</b>	RT
a.	EHC agreed to sponsor a bench dedicated in memory of Bill Wood	
<b>16.</b>	<b>EHC Website</b>	
a.	EHC to look into joining the Town website in lieu of maintaining a separate website	EHC
b.	See Grant Opportunities above	
<b>17.</b>	<b>MACRIS</b>	
a.	2023/24 will include 6 new properties and 1 redo	BW
b.	Future sites to Include: Prospect Lake and Camp Ground in next write up.	RT
c.	Visit campground and look for stone pillars as shown in various photos	BK
<b>18.</b>	<b>Oral History Project</b>	
a.	3 Recordings of Richard Burdsall’s recollections completed and uploaded to thumb drive for archiving.	
b.	Upcoming interviewees 1. Craig Elliot – Tales from the General Store and other stories – interview by BK/RB	BK, RB
b..	BK had re-emailed the oral history permission form to the town for review/approval	BK
<b>13.</b>	<b>ON GOING</b>	
a..	Archive collection / organization / layout – see Grant opportunities 1. EHC to discuss revised goals, program and plans for archives 2. 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
b..	Egremont Newsletter – Future article ideas 1. Egremont is listed as a Historic District by the National Registry since 1980’s – what does this mean to Egremont? 2. Shun Toll Road – early way round to avoid paying the toll a. Owner: Neal and Rene Goff, 304 Egremont Plain Road b. House has been moved c. See map by Nancy Kuntz which shows Toll Station just north of Shun Toll Road 3. Jug End 4. Prospect Lake – campground possibly being turned into a Glamp ground by the new owner 5. Pinecrest Hill 6. Kenver 7. Col. Smiley	BK
c..	Future Outreach 1. Develop a local outreach program to inform the community of our mission/activities/etc. Perhaps a Podcast 2. Coffee, Tea and History a. History of April Hill and using a Historic Preservation Restriction – Will Conklin	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Prospect lake history in photos and stories</li> <li>c. 60 years of the Egremont Garden Club</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Invite Library Trustees to discuss opportunities for collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Library Inventory archive</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Invite 1-2 representatives from the following neighboring Historical Commissions/Societies for a coffee and cake collaboration session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sheffield, Stockbridge, Mt. Washington, New Marlboro, Great Barrington</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. COVID-19 historical record and stories</li> <li>6. EHC newsletter for distribution annually. Short report about events and upcoming initiatives</li> <li>7. Genealogy Records – to be digitized.</li> </ul>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Next Meetings</b>	
a..	Monday Feb. 6 @ 10 am – Archives Room	RT
<b>3.</b>	<b>End of Minutes</b>	
a..	Submitted by Barbara Kalish	1/8/22