

EGREMONT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**MINUTES TO MEETING****MEETING DATE: 06/05/23 @ 9am****ATTENDEES: Rebecca Turner, Barbara Kalish, Francis Nestor, Beth Wood****LOCATION: Zoom****DISTRIBUTION: Attendees, Richard Burdsall, town website**

Discussion		Action By/Date
1.	General	
a.	05/01/23 minutes duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved as noted	
2.	Membership	
a.	The EHC is very sorry to lose two of our valued members. We wish them well in their various on-going ventures. 1. Abigail Rogers-McKee 2. Douglass Cooper	
b.	Elisabeth Wood will be submitting a letter requesting to join the EHC. She has also been asked to become Egremont town historian. A move that the EHC fully supports.	EW
3.	Van Guilder Estate/Jug End	
a.	Comments on the draft report forwarded to AECOM.	BW
b.	Additional EHC comments 1. Some discussion on whether an Executive Summary and Recommendations should be added as noted in comments. Since this has been shared with AECOM, it will be their choice. 2. Add site occupancy from the Mohicans to the present 3. Explore a grant for restoring the gardens, possibly from the Egremont Land Trust and/or the Garden Club 4. Highlight early South County Indian and European population (ref. Bidwell House)	
4.	Demolition Delay Bylaw	
a.	On Hold	RT
5.	Academy Renovation	
a.	Construction complete	RT
b.	On going	
6.	MACRIS	
a.	Progressing well. 1. Some support regarding secondary structures on building sites and inventory numbering. 2. 6 new properties: research completed. Cliff House Photos pending. Difficulty getting permission to photograph old Prospect Lake campground. 3. Of note: Egremont Plain was originally a separate village. Understanding the various towns within Egremont is a significant part of Village history. 4. Cliff House was part of Prospect Lake Park	BW
b.	Information Resources: 1. Sheffield Historical Society – Gregg Siter – has passed on Egremont records to Beth Wood for her historical research and for reinstating in the Egremont Archives	
7.	Cliff House	
a.	Restoration/Renovation/Reuse – Alander Construction 1. EHC understands that the house will become a café and bar for the new Glamping site 2. Designs submitted appear very modern 3. Alander has also purchased the farmhouse but plans are unknown 4. EHC to request information on plans for the various structures on the campsite property – RT 5. Use as a commercial structure is grandfathered in since it was always a commercial structure	
8.	Oral History Project	
a.	On going	
b.	Upcoming interviewees: BK to interview Fay Wood. Fay was previously interviewed by Gary Levielle for	RB

	his book and photographs	
c.	EHC to seek funding for digitizing existing tapes. BK to develop a budget	BK
d.	BK to file recent interviews on EHC desktop	BK
8.	Dirt Roads	
a.	It was agreed that the EHC will photo-document Egremont dirt roads 1) RT: Philips Road 2) BK: Pinecrest Hill, Bow Wow Lane, Guilder Hollow - photos completed, BK to file on EHC Desktop 3) AM: Knox Road 4) FN: Mill Road	RT/BK/ AM/FN
9.	Website	
a.	Caroline charges \$60/hr	
b.	The following tasks have been hi-lited: 1) Tabs a. Welcome to the website b. Who EHC is and what we do: assist with genealogical inquiries c. Fix link to Town website d. News and events e. Follow-up: of tabs, meet w/Caroline after website content is fully defined	
c.	RT/FN will update the EHC	
11.	Next Meetings	
a.	Friday 7/7/23 @ 9 am via zoom	RT
12.	End of Minutes	
a.	Submitted by Barbara Kalish 7/6/23	

13.	Follow-up List	
a..	Retain an archivist	
b..	Budget: EHC to forward budget requests asap, EHC to forward budget requests asap	
c..	Bench in memory of Bill Wood at library garden – RT to follow-up with design development and discuss with Alexis Wreden	RT
d..	Dirt Roads: dirt roads are part of the towns historic fabric – It was agreed that the EHC will photo-document Egremont dirt roads: RT: Philips Road BK: Pinecrest Hill, Bow Wow Lane, Guilder Hollow FN: Knox Road FN: Mill Road	
e..	<p>Future Outreach</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a local outreach program to inform the community of our mission/activities/etc. Perhaps a Podcast 2. Coffee, Tea and History <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. History of April Hill and using a Historic Preservation Restriction – Will Conklin b. Prospect lake history in photos and stories c. 60 years of the Egremont Garden Club 3. Invite Library Trustees to discuss opportunities for collaboration <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Library Inventory archive 4. Invite 1-2 representatives from the following neighboring Historical Commissions/Societies for a coffee and cake collaboration session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sheffield, Stockbridge, Mt. Washington, New Marlboro, Great Barrington 5. COVID-19 historical record and stories 6. EHC newsletter for distribution annually. Short report about events and upcoming initiatives 7. Genealogy Records – to be digitized. 8. Grant tracking – OHP interview digitization 	