

## Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – Approved

DATE: May 3, 2021

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Zoom Virtual Meeting

FOR: Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Malcolm Fick, Don Howe, Gary Leveille, David Rutstein, Paul Ivory, Bill Nappo

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Marilyn Bisiewicz

1. Chairman Fick called the meeting to order as a virtual meeting authorized by the Governor's March 15, 2020 order. A roll-call was conducted to determine members present.
2. Mr. Leveille moved to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting. Mr. Rutstein seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.
3. Mr. Fick informed the commission that no budgeted FY21 funds have yet been used. Commission members expressed agreement that if FY21 funds would not be all used for the *Here and Gone* publication, remaining funds would be used for this summer's Daedalus work. Following a discussion of changes in the town's procurement procedures, Mr. Fick said he would follow up on the process regarding the Daedalus purchase order and the book publishing expenses.
4. CPA Update
  - Mr. Howe reported that the tree removal at the Trolley Shelter will not be funded until next year.
  - Mr. Nappo asked about the fate of unused CPA funds, especially regarding funds approved for the Housatonic School. Mr. Howe stated that repurposing unused funds would require CPC approval and, possibly, Town Meeting approval as well. Unused funds are returned to the CPA fund.
5. Great Barrington Here and Gone
  - Mr. Fick reported that June 1 is the expected award date for the Furthermore Grant.
  - Mr. Ivory reported that he has completed his edits and that Mr. Bernie Drew will incorporate the changes and distribute a pdf for final review.
  - The Great Barrington Historical Society has expressed enthusiasm for participating in the distribution program and will accept fifty initial copies which have been offered at no cost to the Society.

- A Commission meeting will be held in early June to decide on the finances of the project based on the receipt of the Furthermore Grant. Retail and wholesale pricing will be discussed and decided at that meeting.

6. Historical Walking Tour Update

- Only Mr. Rutstein and Ms. Bisiewicz sent suggested changes to tour stops assigned to the group. Members stated that many stops will require no changes. Mr. Fick requested that members notify him this week if there are major changes to stops that have been assigned.
- Mr. Fick and Mr. Leveille will meet this week to discuss the changes to stops that they have been separately and jointly assigned.

7. Other Old Business

- Housatonic Improvement Committee – The committee expressed interest in regular guided historical tours of Housatonic and in exploring historical listings such as Form B's and establishment of historic districts/areas in Housatonic.
- Searles High School – Landscaping and window boarding was noted by members but there was no word on status of the hotel project.
- Housatonic School – There was no update on status or plans for the school. Mr. Rutstein noted that his wife and others became sick while working in the school which may have a severe mold problem.
- Daedelus/Newsboy – There should be work on the Newsboy statue maintenance this summer. Mr. Fick will follow up about the purchase order for the work, as discussed earlier during the budget discussions.

8. There were no comments from the public.

9. The next meeting date was set for June 3, 2021 at 6:00pm.

10. Having concluded its business, Mr. Ivory moved to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Nappo and approved without objection.

Respectfully submitted,  
Malcolm Fick  
Chairman