

## PERU HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING

Location: Town Pavilion behind the Firehouse, 11 E Main Rd, Peru, MA 01235

Attendees: Jim Kenney, Ed Munch, Richard Burke and Susan Masino,

Guests: Coralie Pelkey, Lorin Steele

### Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 to allow one member to join who had been unexpectedly delayed. Roll call was also taken at this time.
2. Acknowledgement of Meeting recording status: This meeting was not recorded.
3. Membership update: Sara Adams has expressed verbal interest in joining as a member of the commission. Interactions with the Selectboard are required for confirmation.
4. Review and vote for endorsement of the Historical Commission Mission Statement – Committee members reviewed the proposed Mission Statement and endorsed the version without change. A vote yeilded 3 – 0 in favor.
5. Sharing of photographic negatives and historical books donated to the town: J. Kenney reported that Sara Adams had donated two large format books to the Historical Commission. One contained newspaper clippings from various papers in Berkshire County. The other is a boundry book for all of the towns in Berkshire County. These have been turned over to the Library. Also donated to the town were a number of photographic negatives by Martin Glendon from Windsor. Mr. Glendon's father had been a photographer for The Berkshire Eagle and these negatives were part of his collection. These have been turned over to the Library.
6. Update regarding the Commemorative Medallion: S. Masino reported that the design work was nearly completed and that the master model was soon to be created. Medallions will be struck from this master model. Having medallions available for sale by Election Day remains in scope and will be confirmed. Masino also shared examples of a medallion that had been created by the same designer for her hometown in Connecticut.

Much discussion centered on an appropriate way for these medallions to be sold. The Selectboard is aware of the concern with the limited number of bonded individuals who can accept cash payments from the public.

7. Update on the Town's 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration: A vote to hold the celebration in 2021 or delay 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration until 2022 will be taken by the BoS in October.

- a. Reenactment: Cost, booking timeline, working through the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee – Given that the town's celebration will likely be delayed, this topic will come off of the agenda until a more appropriate time.
- b. Reproducing the Bicentennial History book and 1995 update – J. Kenney reported that Courier Printing will use an original of the 200<sup>th</sup> book and a bound copy of the 1995 update to create current scans for the 250<sup>th</sup> update. (Post-meeting Note: The scans are very high quality and have been distributed to Historical and Cemetery Commission members.) R. Burke has offered to help with the creation of the 250<sup>th</sup> update. Should Sara Adams be interested, it was suggested that she be involved as well.

L. Steele mentioned that there are significant gaps in time between the original 200<sup>th</sup> Bicentennial History book and the 1995 update and suggested that this be addressed in the 250<sup>th</sup> update.

Mr. Steele also provided a brief history of the Peru Fire Department which can be used in the 250<sup>th</sup> update.

- c. Selecting and writing biographies of Peru history and notable residents. Contribution to Peru Live Wire. Members were asked to begin identifying historical topics and biographies of townsfolk which can be submitted to the Peru Live Wire under the banner of the Historical Commission. These writings can also be used as part of the 250<sup>th</sup> update. This topic will be followed up on at future meetings.
8. Planning for next Historical Commission Meeting: The next meeting should be held in approximately 4 weeks.
9. Any Other Business - None
10. Adjourn Meeting at 1:25pm

James Kenney, Chairman

James P. Kenney 10/10/20

Susan Masino, Member

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Ed Munch, Member

Ed Munch

Richard Burke, Member

Richard Burke

Approved:

10/10/20