

Historical Commission – Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, Oct 5th, 2017

The Historical Commission met on Thursday, October 5th, 2017 in the School House
Present were: Alice Hale (Chair), Clint Elliott, Ann Gallo, Carol Hardy-Fanta, Nini Gilder, Mark Curtin and Maggie Howard. We were very happy to welcome Clint back after his absence in Maine.

Before starting, we had a brief discussion on the Gleaner, and agreed that it might be a good candidate for digitalization. Irma Clark had done a masterful job of indexing it, but this is handwritten and somewhat difficult to read. Nini will contact Barbara Allen (Historical Society, Stockbridge), and Christy Carboda (Historical Society, Lenox), to seek advice on this potential project.

1. In Peter's absence, we deferred discussion on the **Rosina Cannon samplers**, and hope he will have an update for our November meeting.
2. **Simmons Bible**. Nini has photographed much of the paperwork enclosed with the bible (mostly family material) and she or Nini will contact the family in Lancaster, PA to see if they would like to have it.
3. **School House**. Nini briefed the group on the Select Board Meeting, which is entirely supportive of proceeding with an application for the National Register. Carol will work on the initial form which must now be updated. Ann also reported on research she has done on school houses which have been included on the Register, many of which are small, simple structures like ours. Mark will take photos to be included with the application form.
4. **Native American artifacts**. Mark plans to meet during the week of Oct. 9 with Charlie Flynt, to review all these items and discuss what to do with them since they would appear to belong more appropriately with the tribe(s) than in our Historical Room or Library. They will also decide which items are "sensitive" and require special storage conditions.
5. Ann Gallo is researching possibilities for launching an **oral history** project, using many of the tapes that were made for the millennium issue of the Topics, and other tapes. She has consulted Judith Monachina, Director of the Housatonic Heritage and Oral History Center, and therefore deeply involved and knowledgeable in this area of historic preservation.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 2nd, 2017, the venue to be confirmed.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Howard, Clerk