



# *Town of Wilmington*

*Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887*

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## **WILMINGTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**January 8, 2024**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**

**Wilmington Town Hall – Small Conference Room**

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TOWN CLERK  
2024 MAR -5 AM 11:22  
TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

Bonny called the meeting to order 7:00 pm

Members in attendance: Bonny Smith, Matthew Beres, Odette Kent, Joe Jackson  
Karin Bloom, Christine Johnston, Jim Buck, Bob Mallett  
Also in attendance: Anthony Accardi (Clerk).

### **I Minutes of the Meeting December 4, 2023**

Jim Buck made a motion to approve the minutes with one edit, Joe Jackson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor and minutes approved with one edit.

### **II. Treasurer's Report**

Odette Kent made a motion to approve with Jim Buck 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor and the motion was approved.

#### **Procurement Procedure:**

It was also discussed that Matt has the approval to use the credit card in the accounting office for expenses.

### **III. Topics for Discussion**

#### **New Business:**

1. Bonny announced that the roof and window bids were too high and stated that the commission may need to go back to the town for additional funds.
2. Bonny updated the board on the Building Re-use Committee. She stated that there was really nothing new except for the fact that the Historical Commission would have representation on it.
3. Bonny stated that she was working with Megan Jones in the Town Clerk's office for possible grants.
4. Woman's History month is in March. Karin briefly discussed having a social tea sometime that month. Joe mentioned that he found a Wilmington Woman Club Brochure that could be used as décor for the tea. Bonny suggested reaching out to The Chamber of Commerce to add a guest speaker for the tea social. Maybe forming a sub-committee.



5. Matt mentioned that he reached out to the high school for possible field trips to the museum. Joe suggested a "This day in Wilmington" history. Bonny wants a continued feed of ideas for using the tavern for events.

**6. Curator's Report:**

- a. Plaster cracks in front stairwell, meeting room ceiling, kitchen, exhibition room and back stairwell. Dennis Kelly is aware.
- b. Keeping Room Phone Line Patch was completed.
- c. Dry rot in parlor floor near fireplace is being fixed by Public Buildings.
- d. Bonny wants to request funds for the construction of the ell.
- e. Relocation of boxes & archives to the Wildwood School. Attempting a digital archive with website and search engine.
- f. Shelving Units upstairs re-located to the Wildwood School. Requesting public building to re-assemble.
- g. Joe requested the Wilmington Crusader and Advertisers be archived.
- h. Joe Suggested using "past perfect" hotline and reaching out to the city of Woburn.

**NEW EXHIBITIONS:**

1. Matt discussed organizing the museum into time periods
2. Drapes were discussed for the parlor.
3. Work on community engagement.
4. Our mission statement was discussed, with possibly changing some wording
5. Bonny asked Anthony to check if the Commission has a trust / trustee.

**RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

1. Joe mentioned the Wilmington Minutemen engagement and that there was evidence that Paul Revere riding through Wilmington. Matt would like to present this on WCTV once confirmed.
- 2: Cannon Ball donated to the museum from the library in 2005.
- 3: Research two soldiers who passed during World War II.
- 4: It was discussed that the Clapps Mill is in poor condition and may be too costly to clean up.

**MUSEUM VISITORS:**

- Total Visitors: 20
- Social Media:
- Instagram: 85 followers – up by 19
- Facebook: 249 followers – up by 24
- Twitter: 305 followers – up by 4

**DONATIONS:**

- \$10.00 Cash Donation.

**DEMO PERMITS:**

- None.

**TECHNICAL TEAM:**

- No updates.



**POSSIBLE ACCESSIONS:**

-N/A

**ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH:**

-Stereoscope & stereograph – circa 1870 – 1905 – Gift from Wilmington Memorial Library.

**RESEARCH PRESENTATION:**

-Joe mentioned doing a show on WCTV – possibly telling stories and discussing Perry's Corner.  
-The size and location of the ELL was discussed.  
-Joe also discussed the Bond Cracker fires and dates of each fire and its relation to the Congregation church steeple fire. He did a deed search in as part of his research and reiterated the "This day in Wilmington" history.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

-None.

**OTHER:**

-Wilmington's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States was briefly discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-None.

**FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:**

-Collections Management Policy: Bonny asked the group to make their changes and it would be discussed at next month's meeting.  
-Gravestone Restoration Project: N/A  
-Historic Plaque Policy: Tabled.  
-Historic Home Inventory Project: Tabled.  
-Carraige House Cleanout: In the spring.  
-International Harvester Truck Acquisition Update: Nothing to update.  
-Yearbook Distribution Project: See if the public is interested in the collection.  
-Other: George Hooper's upcoming retirement was announced to the group.

Bonny asked for a motion for adjournment:

-Joe Jackson made the motion and Christine 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

