

**East Longmeadow Historical Commission
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Monday March 13, 2023**

Location: Historical Room, EL Library, 60 Center Square, East Longmeadow, MA 01028

Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Present were commissioners: Tom Behan, Bruce Moore, Andrea Driscoll, Ken Hancock. John Makara and George Kingston. Associate members: John Fitzpatrick, Joyce Kent

The minutes of the 2/13/23 meeting were read & reviewed.

Motion to accept the minutes was made by George and seconded, all in favor and the motion was passed.

The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer, Ken Hancock.

Old Business:

1. The Museum's February 18th opening received 7 visitors. Coincidentally, 2 former stone cutters attended. One worked in town and the other was once employed in Germany.
2. Town Hall Bell restoration is in progress with updated information provided.
3. Library Director Katherine McGonigle's application for Archival Services is ongoing
4. George will provide a list of Historic homes and a walking tour is planned during warmer weather.

New Business

5. The next opening for the History Museum is March 18,2023
6. The February 23rd Reminder article was shared. Facilitated by Andrea, Tom and Bruce, the Reminder published an informative article on the Town Hall Bell's history and restoration progress.
7. Longmeadow's History museum was discussed with a photo of their ample basement archival storage.
8. George's research revealed a deed for Center School, 1888. Also found was the deed of sale for Billings Cemetery, 1898.
9. Ken shared photos of Pratt & Whitney in 1943 when it was newly built on Chestnut Street. Ken also shared that production was not interrupted during the move.
10. Forbes Farm's derelict and dangerous condition was discussed.
11. A virtual meeting of the Western Mass Historical Commission Coalition will take place April 20th at 10:00 and it was recommended to attend if possible.

Other Business

1. Ken provided documentation to support the story of John Adams visiting East Longmeadow. John Adam's diary showed he visited Springfield, and numerous surrounding towns.
2. Bruce shared a copy of a odd letter written in 1888 that was stored in a wall at 10 School Street.
3. Bruce shared a newspaper article from 3/12/23 stating that an antique gun stolen from the Longmeadow Historical Society on 09/13/1970, had been found in an attic safe in Newark Delaware.
4. John Fitzpatrick shared that the Huntington Mass Historical Society would welcome us.

Next Meeting April 10,2023

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by John Makara at 7:21 and seconded, all in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Driscoll, Secretary
East Longmeadow Historical Commission