



Town of Franklin Massachusetts  
**Historical Commission**

**Meeting Minutes, February 11, 2025, 6:00 pm**

Commission Members Present: Alan Earls, Phyllis Malcolm, Randy LaRosa, Jan Prentice, Scott Mason, Will Lee, Brandon Carrico, Associate Member Mary O'Leary, Archivist Rowan Lowell.  
Members of the Public Present: Deb Pellegrini

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from January 14, 2025 were unanimously approved.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

FFHM REPORT: Debbie commented that she and the Friends want to attend more Commission meetings. She expressed that she loved the new lobby layout, but that the gift shop was not doing well and that the Friends are in debt this year. Debbie presented a detailed financial report for the Friends.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **TREASURER:** Phyllis reported that the account is down to \$3100.
- **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:** No new business.
- **FRANKLIN 250TH UPDATES:** Alan reported that
- **ARCHIVIST UPDATE:** Rowan reported that one of the volunteers is helping to scan photos of old municipal anniversary celebrations in Franklin. Rowan has also been working on updating the exhibit pages on the museum websites as more items get catalogued. Rowan has been working on exhibit timeline updates and is moving slower than usual due to verifying conflicting dates on certain items. The GIS department is working on a StoryMap of Franklin's development from 1690 to the modern day.

**OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

- Tri-County is innovating a way to create a Bell Stand using an old bell yoke that was discovered underneath the South Congregational Meeting House.
- Alan discussed the future of the KiASK and the monetary lift that would be required to purchase it from Sudheer. Alan is going to meet with Sudheer to see what his expectations are for the Museum to continue using the KiASK as a beta model.
- Alan presented the rough draft of the Hosting Procedures packet. Scott suggested that the Commission can vote to adopt it officially. Brandon motioned to adopt the Hosting Procedures, seconded by Jan. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- Upcoming Friends Annual Meeting
- Alan mentioned that the Horace Mann Committee was beginning soon and that he would be going to their first meeting.

- Brandon was able to get the Victrola record player working. Alan suggested advertising the public to use the phonograph to listen to old records.
- Scott said that the baseball exhibit will be ready about a year from this spring. He has also been working on the freight house and is waiting for warmer weather.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- Jan mentioned that being open for school vacation wasn't very successful and expressed her displeasure that more commissioners haven't been present for events.

ADJOURN

Scott made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jan. The vote to adjourn was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.