

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF METHUEN HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**March 18, 2009**

1. Roll Call:  
Members in Attendance: Steve Barbin, Joe Bella, Ralph Belmonte, Dan Gagnon, Mike Hughes and Ernest Mack. Also present was Alene Reich.
2. Approval of November 19, 2008 Minutes:  
A motion was made to accept the November 19, 2008 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
3. Accounts:  
Total amount in our account is \$5,237.61.  
Alene mentioned that Sara Hayden would like to donate a military uniform and other items to the Collection.
4. Old Business:  
Alene stated the photograph documentation of the Armory as per the Memorandum of Agreement has been accepted by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. This allows for the go-ahead of the Armory project.  
Attorney Shauna Jamal is researching the owners of the Railroad Station site.  
Alene will work with the Station concerning a future proposed Rail/Trail Grant.
5. Correspondence:  
Alene passed around correspondence accumulated for the past three months.
6. New Business:  
Alene distributed copies of the Sands Bridge Interpretive Site plan to the Commission for review. The total cost for this project is \$72,085.00. The Methuen Conservation Commission will be contacted regarding their input.  
Alene reported receiving an estimate for the restoration of the Frost Register from the Northeast Documentation Center. The cost is from \$1,800 to \$3,200. A motion was made to have the Register stored at the Community Development Office, once it is restored, in a secure, safe and dry location, under the supervision of the Historic Planner. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.  
Dan spoke with Methuen High School teacher Anna Hughes about the Save Our History Grant and he reminded her of the June deadline in which to apply. Mike suggested that Dan put together a questionnaire to present to the students at the High School to find out their interests in local history. It was also brought up that the school could put together a History Club type of format available for the students. Dan will contact two other teachers at the High School.
7. Update: Mayor's Committee on Housing of Collection  
Move to Central Building on hold pending communication between Mayor and Superintendent's Office. Mike will speak to Ken Hendrick and Tim Hill and Dan

concerning this situation. Dan expressed his frustration about how we cannot receive donations to the Collection because of the deterioration and dangerous health conditions at the Masonic Lodge storage site. Alene will talk with Karen Sawyer about the availability of Sanborn Hall for the storage of the Collection. A motion was made that if no definite answer was given about when to move the Collection to the Central Building by Friday (March 20), then we will set up a meeting with the Mayor's Office. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. Talent Bank Applications:  
Alene handed out to the Commission the Talent Bank Applications. Please return when completed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Joseph G. Bella, Secretary, Methuen Historical Commission