



Town of Middlefield Historical Document Committee

June 7, 2014
10:00 A.M. at the Senior Center

MINUTES

Present: Marjorie Batorski, Michael Feldberg, Stephen Harris and Howard Knickerbocker
Regrets: Sherri Venditti

The meeting started at 10:00 A.M.

Michael agreed to serve as Chair. Steve motioned, Howard seconds and unanimous vote to elect followed. Howard volunteered to act as interim Clerk.

A discussion ensued on setting goals and priorities for the Committee. Michael offered to draft a Mission Statement. Michael mentioned several possible funding avenues for preservation activities.

The microfilm digitization effort was discussed. \$700 will be requested at the Special Town Meeting on June 23rd to process the second and third rolls. Marge has requested that one roll at a time be sent out.

Howard mentioned that a new version of "Stone Walls" is being advertised. He is presently digitizing the Middlefield content from the old series of magazines for our use. Howard has started digitizing some of the older Town Reports and Steve will publish them to the web site.

Howard suggested that a priority might be to create an index of deaths and burials in Middlefield. The information is scattered and a pamphlet could be published. In addition to the unified documentation the Committee's work would be advertised. Howard reviewed the early Congregational Church records at the Pittsfield Athenaeum. They are a bound Xerox copy in the multi volume Berkshire Collection. The Committee felt that of high priority is to recover the original records from the Church safe and prepare digital copies.

We visited the museum to acquaint Michael and Steve with the key collection areas. I think everyone now realizes the magnitude of work to be done.

The next meeting is left to the call of the Chair.

A motion was made and unanimous vote to adjourn followed at 11:30 A.M.

R/S Howard Knickerbocker