

**Belchertown Historical Commission**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**March 8th, 2016 7:30 to 8:40 PM**

**Town Hall**



Members present: Les Squires (chair), Richard Keating (secretary), Maxine Oland, Patrick Bierly, Judith Gillan, Jill Bierly, Alexander Loss

Members absent: Erika Hamilton,

Ex Officio: Elizabeth Usherwood (graduate assistant UMass Amherst) absent

Chairman Squires called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

**Design and Resiliency Team Meeting**

Jill reported on the meeting with Belchertown community meeting with representatives of the Design and Resiliency Team (DART), a partnership of the New England Municipal Sustainability Network (NEMSN) and American Institute for Architect's Center for Communities by Design. Among their recommendations with impact on Commission business included converting the State School Corridor into a medical/athletic/recreation area. DART recommended four State School buildings be saved, including the power plant on Jackson Street as a potential craft brewery.

**MA Development and State School**

Max provided an update on contact with MA Development in regards to the State School redevelopment project.

Action item: Max to reconnect with Claire O'Neill at MA Development to obtain an update.

Jill reported that Kirk Stephens of the BEDIC has taken the initiative to remove the granite steps from the auditorium building at storing them at Foley Field in town.

Judy suggested inviting Randy Schentemann to attend the next meeting to discuss the State School.

**Dudek Property Schoolhouse**

Les reports that he cannot connect with the property developer. He and Alex will connect with him at the next Planning Board meeting.

**Historical Commission Funds**

Alex proposed use of the Commission fund to a worthy and appropriate cause. The Commission voted unanimously to allow such usage.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Keating