

# Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee \*\* Monthly Meeting Agenda \*\* August 3rd, 2015

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Financial Report, 3 BHPC accounts

- Review of BHPC accounts.
- \$36 in donations from July 4<sup>th</sup> at Footbridge Park
- July 4<sup>th</sup> expenses: Horror Poster, walking tour brochure printing.
- CB expenses, Theo expenses for tent repair

## Invitations/Upcoming Events :

- August 7<sup>th</sup> – FYI Blairstown Emergency Services FD, Ambulance and Police will have open house.
- October 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 – BHPC Main Street Guided - Walking Tour – **Vote: Should we charge?**
- November 14<sup>th</sup>, Saturday – Chris – Ladies of First Presbyterian Church
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Tuesday – Elliot Trommald to give talk on JIB. Location? Time? Can we charge minimal fee?

## Current Research and Update for plaques, etc:

### Old Mill Rework:

- See attached updated draft of re-write by Chris, Barbara and Cynthia. Comments? Missing info.
- *Was Benjamin Smith/Smyth of Walpack the person who built our two mills in town and origin of the name "Smith's Mills". Is Benjamin Smith of Walpack actually buried at the Blair Cemetary? Boy Scout documentation by Alex Mescall – July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003 BHPC newsletter. Snell 1881 says "A man named Smith"*
- 1825 date on stone at Old Mill – (Snell and Rusling say 1819, in 1905 Buttz descendent says 1825)
- Cynthia found will of Jacob Buttz and map does not show either Hankinson's mill or Smith's mills, although other landmarks are shown. Martin is checking at Blair to find out about possible stone on mill.
- Dave – Arrange to see Blair Cemetery records with Susan Staats
- **Vote: should we produce Mill plaque without confirmation of Ben Smith? Rev War and Civil War use?**
- Marker at B.S. 1769 cemetery plot on hold due to uncertainty of Ben Smith info.

### Blair Place Plaque

**Vote: Location of plaque** – Main St at base of hill or at location of Blair Store (Evans home). Either way need permission form of Blair. Martin. This plaque must be complete and installed by end of year.

Blairstown Elementary – Awaiting reply from Bruce Leal. Contacting Dirk Hermann. Need permission.

Blairstown Diner – Contacting for permission.

### Ongoing Business:

- Martin Miller appointed at July 8<sup>th</sup> town committee meeting! Welcome and Congrats!!
- Jeanette Iarato – new member application. Offer to use her storefront at 26 Main for BHPC temporary museum at no charge. Steve – any reason we can't use this space?
- Lori Nienstedt Talley – Introduction and new member application.
- Recap of July 4<sup>th</sup> – what worked, what didn't. Should we change time/date of walking tour? Conflicts with Footbridge Park activities?? Ken offered to donate book sales.
- Blairstown Website Update - Jeanette Iarato has offered to build a separate BHPC website.
- George Branigan Photo – Ken – THANK YOU!!!!!! Great! Old photo of storefront?
- Boy Scout's Founder, Benjamin Smyth connection to Blairstown. Steve – Boy Scout merit badge? BHPC mentor a boy scout on further research on Benjamin Smith?
- Blairstown Presbyterian -Scans/Copies/Pics of 1839 Church Doc and Shotwell - Baptism Book – Dave
- Blairstown Press newspapers – Need temperature sensitive location to store. Blair? Martin
- Steve – Can we establish a separate 5013c as "Friends of Blairstown Historic." For tax free donations, etc? CR comments.
- Friends of Blairstown Historic eMailing list: current count: 8 – We need to grow this list.
- Theo – flyer for Halloween and Elliot Trommald talk. Also, 4 fold walking tour. Two-sided glossy
- Need to move November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to Mon, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>.

- **Next meeting – Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 7:00, municipal building.** Adjourn