

Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee ** Monthly Meeting Agenda ** October 5th, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance

Financial Report, 3 BHPC accounts

- Review of BHPC accounts.
- Chris expenses \$174.53 (8/6 email) , Theo \$30.36 expenses for tent repair

Invitations/Upcoming Events :

- October 31st at 1:00 – BHPC Main Street Guided - Walking Tour
- November 14th, Saturday – Chris – Ladies of First Presbyterian Church
- December 10th is 175th Anniversary of Presbyterian Church.
- April 5th, 2016 Tuesday – Tentative - Elliot Trommald to give talk on JIB. Location? Time?

Ongoing Business:

- *Lori Nienstedt Talley – Congrats and welcome to BHPC!!!*
- *Jeanette Iurato – Congrats and welcome to BHPC!!*
- Blairstown Website Update - Jeanette has secured 3 web addresses to build a separate BHPC website.
- Blairstown Museum – 26 Main Street – offer of Jeanette and husband Tony to use this space. Branigan cabinet currently at this location.
- Blairstown Press newspapers – Need temperature sensitive location to store. Blair? **Martin**
- Can BHPC apply for grants without being a commission status or 501c3?? **B**enefits of a 501c3. Vote on starting a separate 501c3 to enable fundraising.
- Boy Scout's Founder, Benjamin Smyth connection to Blairstown. Boy Scout merit badge? BHPC mentor a boy scout on further research on Benjamin Smith? **Chris**
- Blairstown Presbyterian -Scans/Copies/Pics of 1839 Church Doc and Shotwell - Baptism Book – **Dave**
- 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
- **B**eed to move November 2nd meeting to Mon, October 26. Prior to walking tour.

New business:

- Local history presentations to be held until after adjournment of BHPC business meeting.
- **B**homas Morgan home – Corner of Jacksonburg Road and Route 94. How to protect this and other historic buildings going forward. Inventory of historic buildings outside of downtown district.
- **B**ecide on liaison to Land Use Board, per BHPC ordinance.
- **B**heavy dump truck and passenger bus traffic on Main Street. Historic stone and wood buildings at risk.

Current Research and Update for plaque project:

Old Mill Rework:

- *Documents at Sussex County Historical Society states "Benjamin Smith"*
- *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 Cemetery. DAR records of 1935 do not show a Benjamin Smith or B.S. 1769 indicated in the cemetery. However, 1939 Centennial book does state BS buried at cemetery. Did Blairstown Cemetery association possibly erect the BS stone?*
- 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 corner stone on mill.
- **Dave** – Arrange to see Blair Cemetery records with Susan Staats

Blair Place Plaque - Need location confirmation and permission form signed. **Martin**. This plaque must be complete and installed by end of November at latest.

Blairstown Elementary – **B**permission granted by Blairstown Elementary Board of Education. Location confirmed to be at front, opposite side of the flagpole. Plaque type to be post mount.

Blairstown Diner – Contacting for permission.

Next meeting – Monday, October 26th, 7:00, municipal building. Adjourn