

Freedom Community Historical Society

Restoring the Past / Envisioning the Future

<http://www.freedomhistory.org>

Meeting Notes July 21, 2026

Next Meeting August 18, 2026

Call to order- 6:30 pm

Attendance: Wilson Hess, Elaine Higgins, Tom Cosgrove, Dick Bickford, Mary Anne Shyka, Kate Flynn

Secretaries Report:

- The June 17 meeting minutes were reviewed. The Secretary's Report was unanimously accepted.

Website:

- A report on FCHS's internet presence since April showed that content generated more than 500 views. These activities also generated two fundraising contacts.

Treasurer's Report:

- The Treasurer's Report included a Statement of Financial Condition and a Statement of Activities through the end of the second quarter on June 30.
- The Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

Old Business

Keen Hall Project Report:

- FCHS is working to obtain approval from the National Park Service's historic preservation office for the next phases of construction.
- The team will continue pressing for completion of the review and will seek advisory board input regarding any proposed

New Business

- The first session of the Summer Reading Series was held on Sunday, July 19, and featured selected readings by poet Pamela Burr Smith.
- Historic Preservation Grant Opportunity
 - The Morton Kelly Charitable Trust approached the organization with a \$10,000 grant opportunity for historic preservation work. The group discussed three potential funding categories:
- Town Comprehensive Plan
 - Outline of the historical section of the draft comprehensive plan will cover Freedom's history, significant historic sites, and strategies for preserving historical resources and will continue developing the historical section of the town's comprehensive plan.

Officers 2025

President: Wilson G. Hess

Vice President: Elaine Higgins

Secretary: Anne Marie Adamson

Treasurer: Tyler Hadiniak

2026 Freedom Community Historical Society Board of Directors

Anne-Marie Adamson, Richard Bickford, David Bridges, Tom Cosgrove, Kate Flynn, Paul Flynn, Tyler Hadyniak, Wilson G. Hess, Elaine Higgins, Ellie O'Leary, Rene Ouellet, and Mary Anne Shyka