

Minutes of  
Friends of Springfield Armory NHS  
First Quarter Meeting  
January 4, 2023  
3:00 PM via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Moved by Mr. Daboul, Seconded by Dr. Ford

Present: Mr. Daboul, Mr. Cosgrove, Mr. Johnson, Dr. Ford, Mr. Chapman,  
Ms. Fellner, Mr. DeRose, Mr. Batchelder, Mr. Benton.

2. Approval of the 3Q minutes and 4Q Annual Reports which were attached to invite.

- a. Move to accept minutes by Mr. Stolinski, Second by Mr. Benton.

3. Treasurers Report

- a. See attached.
- b. Move to accept the Treasurers Report by Mr. Cosgrove, Seconded by Mr. Stolinski
- c. The Friends are in the financial position of having paid for a major restoration project, fully paid for our books and challenge coins, and have cash reserves. We are in a solid place with finances.

4. New Business-

- a. Victory March latest rendition with trumpet is attached.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Clock Committee-Mr. Chapman from NPS reported we held a progress meeting with Electric Time today, sometime in April they will commence installation and do final install in May. We are waiting on a weather window. We will jointly communicate any progress based on the spring weather.
- b. Education Committee-Dr. Ford reporting that we are still looking for ways to create content for academic professionals. Dr. Ford is discussing a host of options with Scott and Amy on different ways to do that. Dr. Ford is trying to find ways to amplify the history of the Armory. Top three topics:
  - 1. Virtual Tour
  - 2. Daniel Shays
  - 3. Early Industrialization

6. National Park Service Reports

- a. Springfield became a American WWII Heritage City in 2022. The only city in Massachusetts to be selected. The spiral staircase is being painted this year and the lights will be converted to LED. Ms. Fellner reported that an archivist has been hired and has hit the deck plates running, she has been instrumental in assisting researchers. Mr. Stolinski asked about the content of the archives at the Armory.
- b. The Armory will receive a second year of funding for traditional trades program at the Armory. The program is 26 weeks and places a student in traditional trades at the Armory to work.

## 7. President Reports

- a. Following the 2023 Appeal Letter which was emailed the last week of December, we received three new members and approximately \$1000 in renewals.
- b. On January 2, 2023 we published two press releases; #1 relating to the clock project was received by MassLive and The Reminder. The Reminder called to do an interview about the entire project. Fingers crossed that it gets published.
- c. Press release #2 was to notify the collectors community on FB of the collections committee named for 2023-2024. It was shared repeatedly through the different groups and drove our page traffic up through January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- d. While planning for a project in March, it was reported that Mr. Daboul met a person who is a member of the western Mass miniature model club. They paint miniature soldiers and create dioramas. He said the club would love to collaborate with the Friends on a Christmas project. A lively discussion on this topic, fund raising and even a seminar came up and it was agreed to have a discussion off-line to see where this may lead. The board moved to hold a meeting with ad hoc members to discuss toy soldier 3D printing event. "Stamping, Casting and 3D Printing"
- e. The conversation opened to many topics, one including having patches made similar to the Armory Logo we use for the Friends and to have our name initialized to FoA or FSA, no action was taken on this as it is the initial topic; Mr. Stolinski and Mr. Benton are strong proponents.

## 8. Adjourn

Prior to adjourning, we enjoyed more discussion on where we are as an organization. We are about to complete a major restoration which we call the Phase II clock restoration; this was started in 2015 by the Friends. We are still on solid financial ground. Our board is committed and engaged. We have identified the need to grow membership and plan to do this with two friend-building events in 2023.

We played the latest rendition of the *Springfield Armory Victory March* and then Adjourned at 4:13PM.