

# MIDDLETON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**Date:** 3/25/2025

**Time:** 5:00 PM

**Chair:** ANNE COTE

## IN ATTENDANCE

Anne Cote, Sally George, Pike Messenger, Bob LeBlanc, Richard Andreucci

## MINUTES:

**New members** Bob LeBlanc & Richard Andreucci introduced.

**Votes taken** for two positions, Clerk and Chairman.

Bob LeBlanc was voted **unanimously** for **Clerk** position

Anne Cote was voted **unanimously** for **Chairman**

### From Agenda:

**Update on Historic Plaques Project:** Richard will contact Essex Tech to see if the signs could be made there or a decal of the Great Oak that could be used on a sign and what materials could be used as well as a cost estimate.

**Update on placing the Tramp House and Old Town Hall on National Historic Register.** Anne is currently researching the requirements and the process to get both sites registered.

**Update on Signal Boxes,** these are the green electrical boxes you see around town. Some towns locally have had artwork added to these boxes with town related historical related images or artwork. Anne was going to contact the state as these are state owned devices and see about the feasibility to add artwork.

**Update on M Tyler walking stick.** Pike Messenger made a beautiful chestnut display case to present to the library for display. Bob LeBlanc will come up with a design for a small plaque to accompany the display case.

**Update on Middleton 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans.** Town would like to have a committee for this very important project that would include the school dept, the historical society, the veterans of the town, along with a special book written by Shirley Raynard and a reprinting of The Watkins Book of Middleton. Richard is going to contact Peabody Essex Museum about reprinting this all important Middleton historical book as they were the original printers. Pike supplied to Richard the entire book in digital format.

**Update on the Bark Tanning Mill.** There was discussion on the town purchasing this lot (about 1/10 of an acre) from the current landowner as the current landowner is concerned about liability issues and may be willing to sell for a very reasonable amount.

**Update on Curtis Oak.** David Burch has done some trimming on the mighty oak to save the tree from possible damage. The limb removed had an impressive 238 rings making the approx. age of the tree around 600 years old. Pike is going to discuss with MELD the notion of trimming around power lines.

Bob LeBlanc was appointed to represent the Historical Commission on an upcoming vote on Monday March 31, at the library.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Pike brought up a property that abuts town land on Ingall Rd off Essex St that has an overgrown cemetery near Jones Rd that includes a member of Senate. Pike is interested in either forming a group of volunteers or possibly a great Eagle Scout Project to clear the underbrush and make a small pathway leading into the cemetery. In the past the property owner adjacent to the lot has given permission to access the cemetery lot. Pike would reconfirm that position with either the same owner or a new one if that's the case. The cemetery is a family plot from the Moody Ingalls family and one of the sons served as a Senator for the state of Kansas and rests in this plot alongside Moody which was a Middleton Blacksmith and Inventor in the 1800's

Sally brought up a walk along Mt Vernon St and King St where a large rock that has once featured a plaque was strangely missing. Anne was going to do some research on what that plaque said and look into replacing it and trimming some trees back at that sit

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 22, 2025 5:00 PM LIBRARY TRUSTEES ROOM**

**CLOSE MEETING: 6:10 PM**

Bob LeBlanc 3/25/2025 Clerk

