Town of Canaan

Historic District Study Committee

Monday, October 19, 2026

The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society

44 Railroad Street, Falls, Village, Connecticut 06031

In Person

Persons present: Judy Jacobs, Ann Bidou, Bill Beebe, Caitlin Jenkins

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Judy Jacobs, chair.

No alternates were called.

There were no public comments.

Bill Beebe made a motion to seat former alternate Ann Bidou as a regular member. Jenkins, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Previous minutes were approved.

Historic signs have been installed in Town. They were supposed to have read, "Entering Falls Village" but they do not. Not a problem. Town crews will be requested to pull out old sign posts.

Mary Dunn was called regarding upgrading of the blue Village History sign on the Town Green. She said Town funds would have to be used. Bill Beebe and Denny Jacobs will undertake its restoration.

No feasible names for alternates to the Historic District Study Committee were suggested for recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Ideas will continue to be solicited.

Establishing a Master Copy of the Report and Regulations was discussed. The current edition was last updated 4/20/26 and this was emailed for review to all Committee members. Jenkins will email this again for final review by all members. Changes and updates will be given to Judy Jacobs, whose digital copy will become the Master Copy for finalization. Any changes or additions will be brought to the November meeting for approval and inclusion on the Master Copy.

There are necessary changes to be made to the Inventory of District Buildings. Jacobs Garage does not own the Package Store building, and this will be updated. Some photos of buildings in the District have yet to be taken, and Jenkins will finalize these. Descriptive wordings are from the 1979 document submitted to the National Register of Historic Places and will need to be updated with modern owners and details. Sears houses, especially, will need to be identified on this document. The Committee will review, correct, and update by next meeting. It should be noted that there are non-historic buildings within the Historic District. While these will be listed, they will be subject to fewer restrictions that historic buildings.

There was no update on the Walking Tour documents.

Bill Beebe found some horse hitching posts and wants to re-install them at appropriate spots around Town. Decisions about where will need to be made before winter. It was suggested the post that was knocked over on the corner of Miner Street and Beebe Hill be moved to a less dangerous spot across the street.

Date for the next meeting is Monday, November 16, 2026 at 4 pm at the Historical Society.

Motion to adjourn by Beebe, seconded by Jenkins. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully,

Ann Bidou, Recording Secretary