

**May 2017 Historian Report for June 2017 Board Meetings**  
**Marybelle Beigh, Westfield Town and Village Historian**

**Historian Activities During May 2017:**

- Attended Town Board Meeting of May 3, 2017, and provided Historian Report
- Attended Village Board Meeting of May 15, 2017, and provided Historian Report
- Continued researching names of former Mayors of Westfield, and locating portraits for project of our “Mayor Hall of Fame” project. Since, in 1927, the title of the head for villages in NY State was changed to Mayor, and since Westfield had titled the heads, President of Village, have continued research backwards for Presidents. In process have discovered that the laws for terms and voting procedures were changed in the early 1900s, there was quite an overturn of Presidents annually, and apparently a number of “heated” races. At this point we have photos for about a dozen mayors covering the past 70 years!
- BeeLines articles researched, written, and published with related photos in the Westfield Republican, and on the Westfield Historian Facebook page for May:
  1. Questions re Minton House Fire Raised by 42 NP Hidden Room Mystery; 2017 photo of east half of mystery room, 1909 photo of firemen at scene of disastrous Minton House fire
  2. More Paintings, drawings and names in 42 NP mystery room; Two 2017 photos showing 2<sup>nd</sup> full painting, and drawings, words, simple paintings
  3. Sorting and sharing finds in attics and research; Story about early Westfield pioneer Abram Dixon, our 1<sup>st</sup> lawyer/attorney; Circa 1910 photo of circa 1820 house built by Abram Dixon on Main Street (in WP); Circa 1890 photo of Abram Dixon’s house and office (in WR and on Wfd. Hist. FB page)
  4. Another early settler, Dr. A McIntyre and his Sulphur Springs “hospital”; 1854 map showing location of Sulphur Spring. (Published June 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Researching information for a client about what became of the WWII POW Camp buildings that were in Westfield on Nichols Ave. Possibly has located one moved to Maple Springs.
- Researching myths, legends, history mysteries about the “lost cave hiding gold in the gorge” in response to several recent questions from BeeLines readers.
- Researching the locations of early mills, homes, dams, bridges, and other structures along Chautauqua Creek in response to recent reader questions.

**Request for Assistance with “Tools of the Trade”:**

Historian office computer crashed early this week. May need assistance in obtaining repair or replacement in order to resume historian work at office. Please advise. Thanks.