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Southbridge Historical Commission Meeting (Remote Meeting)
Tuesday May 16 at 6:30pm
Goto meeting link below
-SOUTHBRIDGE, MA

(Agenda)

1. Call to order
2. Treasure report
3. Letter from Margaret Morrissey about helping with a donation to help digitization of a rare 35mm film about Sacred Heart Church (see letter sent) .
4. Commissioners forum
5. Adjournment

Helen M Boyle
Committee Chair
May 11,2023

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/southbridgehistoricalcommission>

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Ms Helen Boyle,
Chair Historical Commission
Southbridge

Dear Ms. Boyle,

I am writing to request the Southbridge Historical Commission's consideration of a contribution to the cost of the digitization of a 35 mm film that was recently discovered in the Jacob Edwards Library archive.

On March 22, 2023 Mike Marketti and Paul Zotos, both movie enthusiasts, reviewed the movie and cleaned off some 'rust' residue from the film that probably originated from the metal spokes in the film reel. They have taken a quick look at the film - it is a nitrate and highly flammable material.

The information they found on the leader was:

"Exclusive Pictures Taken for the Strand Theatre Central Motion Picture Co. C.L. Raimondo Photographer's." See attached photograph.

There was a paper label on the can with the words "Sacred Heart Church" noted on it.

On 4/6/2023, I spoke with Anthony Labbate, Preservation Manager of Eastman Museum, Rochester, NY (www.eastmanmuseum.org) who provided some guidance and a guesstimate on how much the work would cost (without seeing the film itself)
He estimated there was 1,000 ft of silent footage. There would be no restoration or repairs done. A high level 4k scan would be done with color correction and editing. Thus preserving this historical footage.

The cost is estimated to be **in the vicinity of \$4,070**

This is a daunting sum of money. However, I am hoping that the historical significance of The Strand Theatre and Sacred Heart Church would make this a project worthy of your consideration.

Preserving the history of the community is our mission. There is a wall in the Reading Room where some memorabilia from The Strand Theatre are installed. As you are aware, we have some images on the library's Flickr account
<https://www.flickr.com/gp/jacobedwardslibrary/qT7mG9e765>

With the recent deterioration of the Sacred Heart building, it makes this project all the more urgent.

I would appreciate it if you would present this request to the Southbridge Historical Commission members for their decision.

Thank you
Best wishes

--

Margaret

Margaret Morrissey
Library Director
Jacob Edwards Library
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Southbridge, MA 01550
www.jacobedwardslibrary.org
508-764-5426x101