

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

**Historian Activities During April 2017:**

- Provided March 2017 Historian Reports for April 2017 Board meetings.
- With the help of friends and the “residents” of the Westfield Electric Department building, the Westfield Historian office furniture and files, equipment and books were relocated from my condo to the new Westfield Town & Village Historian Office in the Electric Department building on English Street, Monday, April 10, 2017. THANKS for all the help and encouragement!
- Because of a nasty fall, early in the morning of 4-10-2017, my historian activities have been severely restricted while recovering. Thankfully, other than some mobility issues, I have mostly recovered, but still must sleep several times a day, as well as through the night, and often use my walking poles to get around.
- In spite of the fall, I have set up the office with a computer, and have continued to do research and write BeeLines articles, limited to every other week for publication in the Westfield Republican, & Westfield Historian Facebook page.
- BeeLines Articles researched, writing, and published with related photos in the Westfield Republican, and on the Westfield Historian Facebook page for April:
  1. Not an actual BeeLines, but posted a request for portrait photos of past Mayors of the Village of Westfield, on both Westfield Historian and Marybelle Beigh Facebook pages the first week of April. Have received two appropriate photos, and several offers to locate others. This is for an ongoing project suggested by Mayor Mike. In addition to the list of Mayors provided for the years 1953 through present, research is continuing to determine the names and years of office prior to 1953. A note of interest is that prior to the mid-1920s, the Village of Westfield’s governing head was called President. The State of NY passed a law to change the title for all Village governing heads to Mayor.
  2. BeeLines – History of several Doctors and a Fire at 56 North Portage; current (2017) photo by Marybelle Beigh of 56 North Portage, and a request for earlier historic photos. (none yet offered or sent or received, sad to say).
  3. BeeLines – Undercover Discoveries at 42 N Portage (of a locked 2<sup>nd</sup> floor room that may have been a saloon or speakeasy in the early 1900s; photos of the “Keep Out. Of. This. Room. door and a mystery painting of “Bruce” fishing, artist possibly named “Brooks”
- Attended CCHS Annual Meeting at UMC.
- Researching more about creeks, beaches, parks, and communities along the shores of Lake Erie in the Town of Westfield. Located a 1954 map showing Spring Creek as the name of the creek just east of Persons Road, that flows into Lake Erie at historic Persons Beach.
- Beginning research on the realities and myths concerning the Underground Railroad in the Town and Village of Westfield.
- Provided some Civil War research on two veterans to a client.