

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **Regarding the Methuen Historical Society Bylaw Amendments**

### **Why has the Methuen Historical Society Board of Directors decided to adopt these bylaw amendments?**

Many have come to feel the term 'historical society' is both outdated and somewhat exclusionary. It implies that only a small group of people cares about the preservation of the history of our community. These changes, especially the re-brand update, are intended to demonstrate a more modern, relevant, and inclusive organization. The goal is to motivate more friends and neighbors to become involved in learning about and protecting the uniqueness of Historic Methuen.

### **Will these bylaw amendments affect my membership?**

No. Every current member will automatically become a member of Historic Methuen. We will be launching a major membership recruitment effort later this year to advance our goal of a larger and more engaged membership. We hope all current members will participate in that effort.

### **Will these bylaw amendments affect the operation of the Methuen Museum of History or the preservation of the Tenney Gate House?**

The Board of Directors is deeply committed to preserving the Gate House and to continuing to build a vibrant and accessible museum for the people of Methuen. In fact, part of the motivation for these changes reflects our desire to highlight our role as stewards of the Methuen Museum of History and to engage more people in that effort.

### **When will these amendments be considered by the membership of the Methuen Historical Society?**

The Board of Directors has recommended an affirmative vote on these bylaw amendments. **That recommendation will be considered by the members of the organization on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Methuen Museum of History, 37 Pleasant Street in Methuen.**