

# **ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Minutes of Meeting for September 13, 2010  
John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

President, Denny Lentz called the business meeting to order with 31 people in attendance. Denny took time to talk about the Bicentennial held in August. He again thanked all the people who chaired the various planning committees. He included those who helped make the Ball such a success, those who worked on our winning parade float, those who constructed the historic signs placed around town, those who prepared the information for the self guided historical tour of Eliot, those who worked at our different sites during the Bicentennial week and everyone else who helped to make our part of the Bicentennial such a success. He announced that so far we have received \$1,000 for the sale of Helen Goransson's book, "View From Rosemary Hill".

He reminded the members of the upcoming Eliot Library's auction and dance to be held at the Regatta Room. The fundraiser proceeds are going to benefit a very much-needed heating and cooling system for the Eliot library.

Denny said that there are articles for sale on the back table. There are Polly McDonough's posters, Helen Goransson's books and Jeanette Paul's Bicentennial poems.

Denny said we have received a thank you for our annual donation to the Great Works Regional Land Trust.

Secretary's Report Dorothy Hansen read the minutes from the June meeting and 2 additions were added. I had omitted Fran Hartford from the sign committee and Cyndi Sullivan who served on the Bicentennial Ball committee. Amended minutes were then approved.

Treasurer's Report Julie Johnson read her report showing debits for electrical bills, Grange rental, annual picnic supplies, presentation supplies, website updates and Bicentennial expenses of \$4,348. Julie read credits for product sales, dues, Jeanette's poem signing, community reinvestment check of \$280, donation from Helen Goransson for her book sales, Bicentennial float award of \$70 and Bicentennial activities of \$4,690 giving us a balance of \$3,549.39 in our checking account. In our Buzz Savings account there was a credit of 3 months interest of \$11.35, the Town of Eliot Appropriation check for \$3,250 giving a balance of \$14,541.77. A balance of \$10,542.82 in our CD matured Aug 7<sup>th</sup> and renewed at .9% interest for a year. Her report was approved.

## Committee Chair Reports

Program Carol Zamarchi said that she is always happy to take any program suggestions for next year.

Collections Julie Johnson has received a 1926 Laura V. Dame School picture from Dick Wood. She also received a copy of a deed of Woodland Acres from Feb. 26, 1962. She will send thank-yous to the donors. Denny then stated that we need a new home for our collection. It can no longer be housed at the Eliot Fire station. It has been temporarily moved into a site with no heat. Cindy, Zip & Jeanette have helped to try to locate new space. We need a dry space with a minimum of 200 sq. ft. Preferably we should have a 20 X 20 foot area so there is room for a working table. If any one has an idea for a suitable space let Denny know.

Fund Raising Carol Zamarchi reported that we financially came out a little head on the Ball. We spent around \$6,000 and made a little more. The goal was to break-even. She said the Bicentennial Ball was our gift to the town.

Education Jeanette Paul had nothing new to report, but took the opportunity to introduce Ruth Drake who was in attendance at our meeting. Ruth is the daughter of Fabian Drake whose Eliot's citizen award is named after. Jeanette's father, Adville Spinney was the 1<sup>st</sup> recipient of the Fabian Drake Citizen's Award.

### New Business

The nominating committee is preparing for the election of officers and directors for the 2011 term. Results will be due for the December "annual" meeting. If anyone would like to serve let the committee know.

Denny proposed that we put together a "time capsule". A lot of people have collected items from the Bicentennial. He suggested that members start bringing in items for it. Julie would like any pictures to be labeled and put in envelopes with the donor's name. Judith reminded us not to use pen on pictures, but perhaps use pencil or labels.

Denny passed around a sign up sheet for those willing to work on our Eliot Festival Day booth on September 25<sup>th</sup>. People would be needed for setting up and taking down, and people to man the booth.

Eric stood up to say that he and Roseanne Adams are in the middle of planning a dedication ceremony. Roseanne was aware that the grave of General Andrew Pepperell Fernald on Goodwin Road who served in the Revolutionary war did not

have a proper stone. Eric said they went through the whole process of giving original documentation papers to the Veterans' Administration. They have been informed that a VA monument for General Fernald would be arriving in 4-6 weeks. They are planning a dedication ceremony for General Fernald. Ray Faulkner said that the family would like to keep it small. The American Legion and an artillery company would take part in a small-dignified ceremony.

Denny thanked Cyndi and Helen Sullivan for the night's refreshments.

Denny then adjourned the meeting and turned it over Carol.

Carol then introduced Todd Goldenburg, a York County resident and maker of violins to talk about the history of violin making. Todd said that violin making dates back to 1490 in Spain. From 1490–1500 men from Russia started creating what evolved into the violin. He said that there was a widespread plague around 1630 and 200,000 people perished in Europe. The violinmakers perished and so the violin was recreated. The greatest violinmaker of all time was Antonio Stradivari. Todd makes his own. He uses European maple. He ages his wood for 5 years before using. It takes him a month to make a violin. The strings are made of plastic covered by metal. Members were very interested in Todd's talk and ask him numerous questions. He brought a display with violins and parts used in making them.

Cyndi and Helen Sullivan then served refreshments.

Respectfully Submitted  
Dorothy Hansen, Secretary