

# ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting for October 3, 2011  
John F Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

Denny Lentz called the business meeting to order with 40 people in attendance. He welcomed everyone including several guests.

Secretary's Report Dorothy Hansen read the minutes of the September meeting. They were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report In Julie Johnson's absence, Paul Johnson read the Treasurer's report showing debits for the electric bill, Grange rental, Eliot Festival Day booth fee, archival supplies, and Ball expenses. There were credits for dues, book sales and Kennebunk Savings Bank Community Fund Donation. There were also credits including a donation from Helen Goransson for the Ball dance instructor, from Ball sponsors, Ball raffle and Ball ticket sales giving a balance in the checking account of \$2,989.97. There was an interest credit in the savings account giving a balance of \$17,878.54. The report was approved as read.

## Committee Chair Reports

Correspondence Denny said that Peggy Elliot would be sending a thank you note to Kennebunk Savings Bank for their "community investment check. Denny said the check we received was \$425.00.

Membership Denny said that Janet would no longer be able to act as membership chairman due to illness. So it is an open position and we will need someone to take it over. Janet did a great job.

Programs Carol Zamarchi was absent. Denny said people should contact Carol if they have any program ideas for 2012.

Collections Toni Searles will start to help the collections committee in Oct. and Keith was instrumental in getting a large collection for us from Jean Willis.

Building Paul Johnson said that the workday planned for October 15<sup>th</sup> would be re-scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9-2. They will be meeting at the #8 schoolhouse for scraping and painting and also for repairing screens.

PR/Publicity Denny thanked Carolyn for the Ball publicity. Carolyn said she sent the article to 4 sources, but the Sentinel printed it.

Fund Raising Denny thanked the Ball committee for a great job on the Harvest Moon Ball. He said that we made a profit of \$6.86 on the Ball. It was suggested that we should give complimentary memberships to the Historical Society to owners of the farms who did their displays at the Ball. It was agreed by consensus. Cindy said that she had get-well cards for Carol Zamarchi and Janet Saurman to pass to members to sign.

Denny thanked all who helped with the Eliot Festival Day booth.

Education Jeanette said she had nothing new to report.

Building Planning Committee The committee hasn't met for a while. Denny said that he has written a letter to the town. He would like them to keep the Eliot Historical Society in mind when they are planning a space for the Community Service Department. We would like them to give us a space to store our collection.

#### Old Business

Denny said that the nominating committee is working to come up with a slate of officers and directors for 2012. If anyone is interested in serving please contact the committee, Helen Goransson, Jeff Koch and Rosanne Adams. Denny reminded everyone that most of the officers are going off this year and it is very important that these people be replaced. Denny said that if we can't replace these positions we would not be able to conduct regular business meetings. The election is at our December meeting.

#### New Business

Denny reminded members that the December meeting would be the Christmas party. Be thinking about something to bring for the show and tell, telling what is significant for you or your family.

Carolyn would like to see the #8 schoolhouse used more. She is trying to find ways to have others use it.

Denny also thanked Jeanette Paul and Fran Richardson for the night's refreshments. He then closed the business meeting and introduced Zip Zamarchi to introduce the program for the night.

Zip then asked Wendy Gilbert to come forward to present her program about the Lanier's Camp in Eliot founded in 1909, which remained active until 1939. Wendy

gave a background of Sydney Lanier, who was a lawyer and poet. Sydney started the camp with his wife, Maude Elizabeth. Wendy had pictures of the Lanier family and went over the family history. The camp was spread over 55 acres, now 6 different properties. Wendy gave a great slide presentation, which chronicled the daily activities and great pictures and captions. Wendy asked that anyone share their memories they might have of the camp. Wendy said that the camp purpose was “to know as well as to be”. She said that the camp was co-operative living, everyone helped. It was idealism for intellectuals. The camp drew from New York City, Boston and Philadelphia. Attendees could take classes including music, various sports, jelly making, bread making, pottery and art. She said the camp staff included a nurse and resident doctor. Wendy showed us camp brochures with its fees. She also showed us wooden crafts and some pewter pieces made at the camp. Wendy was very knowledgeable of her subject and willing to answer questions from her audience.

Jeanette and Fran then served the evening’s refreshments.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Hansen, Secretary