

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Meeting for Oct. 5th, 2009
John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

Denny called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. There were 22 people in attendance. Denny told the members that Judith Hilt was in intensive care at Maine Medical in Portland. He also announced that there were upcoming fundraisers to benefit Jack Murphy because he lost almost everything when his home burned.

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

Treasurer's Report Julie Johnson gave her report showing debits of a charitable donation to the Jack Murphy Fund and Grange rental. There were credits for dues and books and note card sales giving a balance of \$644.30 in the general fund checking account. There was no activity in the #8 Schoolhouse Fund with a balance still of \$154.01. The savings account had an interest credit giving a balance of \$10,449.59. The treasurer's report was also approved.

Committee Chair Reports

Program Carol Zamarchi said that she is interested in any ideas people might have for future monthly programs. Just let her know.

Collections Julie said that she recently received a school slate that came from the Staples family. There were several items donated from the Cresswells that are also on the table at the back of the room. Members were asked to guess what these items were used for.

Building Paul Johnson reported that Zip Zamarchi recently spoke with the Grange ladies to find out what new projects need to be done.

Fund Raising Carol has 100 tickets to sell for the opening night of "A Christmas Carol" at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre in Portsmouth, NH. This is a big fundraiser. The tickets sell for \$20 each. There will be refreshments, a great show and a chance to meet the cast afterward. There was a discussion on whether to participate in the Marshwood Bazaar on Dec. 5th. We have had a table there for several years and find that it gives us good exposure. It was decided to send in the application to do it again.

Bi-Centennial Planning Zip Zamarchi reported that at the last meeting sub-committees were being appointed. There were some discussions about inviting dignitaries to the Ball. Ray Faulkner would like any ideas people have for the parade float. John Sullivan would pull the float.

Old Business

Eric Christian has spoken with Peter Sablock from Salem State. Peter was responsible for doing the radar scan at the site near the Boat Basin looking to locate the Garrison home foundation. Eric will talk to Peter to determine when he could present his findings to the Eliot Historical Society.

New Business

Julie Johnson reported that the nominating committee has met and will be phoning people to fill the open positions. If anyone is interested in serving, please give her a call.

Announcements

Denny reminded members of the December meeting, which will include our annual meeting, election of officers and our Christmas party.

He thanked Cindy for that night's refreshments.

Denny also thanked Eric for all his work done on the Historical Society's Website. Eric said that he receives messages from various people looking for help, which he tries to guide them to the appropriate person.

Our next meeting will be November 2nd. Nate Hazen, a Marine Docent will present "An Armchair Cruise on the River" as our program.

Denny then adjourned the meeting and called on the program chairman, Carol Zamarchi.

Carol then introduced Helen Goransson who lives in the "Bartlett House" on Depot Road. Helen & her husband, Paul met in the Eliot School, lived in various places and out of the country, before returning to live in Eliot in 1985. They bought their home, which had been known as the Bartlett House. Helen was very knowledgeable about the Bartletts. She had done much preparation and research into the Bartlett family genealogy. She did a slide presentation covering a long family lineage and wonderful Bartlett family pictures. Adam Bartlett moved from Normandy to England; Richard

came from England to America in 1621. Sylvester Bartlett was the one who lived in her house originally. She feels the presence of Sylvester in her home. Some of the Bartletts tended to be egomaniacs. The Bartletts were well educated. Many went to Dartmouth and some to Harvard. A 16-year-old Bartlett girl married Ole Bull, a famous Norwegian Violinist who was like the rock star of his time. Bartletts knew Abe Lincoln, Mark Twain, Sara Farmer, and other well known people of their day. Ed Bartlett had the 1st car in Eliot and the 1st telephone line. Helen is hoping to finish her book on the Bartletts by the Bi-Centennial. She took questions and had a large display of articles and pictures for the members to peruse after her talk.

Refreshments were then served by Cindy Lentz.

Respectfully submitted
Dorothy Hansen, Secretary