

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting – June 3, 2013

John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot

President Rosanne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 29 people in attendance including Nancy Guptil from the North Berwick Historical society. Rosanne welcomed everyone and reminded us that there would be no meeting in July and we would gather again at the Boat Landing on August 5th at 5 p.m. for a picnic supper. She said that there would be a fire ready for those who wished to bring meat to cook. There will be paper products and soft drinks available. We could bring a dish to share.

Secretary's Report - In the absence of Secretary Helen Goransson, Dorothy Hansen read Helen's report for May 6th. After some corrections the minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report - Richard Bogh read the Treasurer's Report as of June 3, 2013. The report is attached. The balance as of May 6, 2013 in the checking was \$4,441.93. There were debits of \$1,374.19 including electricity, 12 month's rent of the P.O. Box, property ins. on the #8 school house, fund raising expenses, gift for Denny Lentz, rental for collection storage, and postage stamps. There was a credit of \$20.00 for dues bringing the balance as of 6/3/13 to \$3,087.74. The balance in the savings account as of 4/30/13 was \$20,914.96. Interest of \$1.78 was earned giving a balance as of 5/31/13 of \$20,916.74. The report was approved as read.

Richard also asked if we would again want to pay for a table at Eliot Festival Days in Sept. He said the cost would be \$35. There was a small discussion and Bob Fisher offered to donate the fee.

Richard also read a letter from a Mike Willette making inquiries about a cemetery on Dover Point Rd. Rosanne took it so she could reply.

Collections Committee – Julie Johnson reported that she had a new acquisition from Paul Rousseau of Boy Scout pictures from the 1950s. Julie had placed the pictures on a table

at the back of the room and asked if our attendees could identify any of the young men and write their names on an accompanying chart.

Building Committee – Paul Johnson reported the building committee would be meeting at 4 p.m. on June 17th at Zip Zamarchi's home.

PR/Publicity Committee – Carolyn Bogh said that she had submitted an article to the Sentinel about the annual student's visit to the #8 Schoolhouse which appeared in the paper. Carolyn said she received thank-you notes from the children regarding their schoolhouse visit. They really loved the gingerbread cookies.

Fund Raising – Cindy Lentz reminded everyone about the Historical Society's yard and bake sale coming on Sat., June 8th from 8-1 at the #8 Schoolhouse. Set up will begin at 6 a.m. and baked goods should be dropped off by 7 a.m. The schoolhouse will be open June 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th from 5-7 so members might drop off their yard sale items. She also informed people of the rain date of June 15th. She suggested that those making baked goods keep in mind that they could freeze their items if it rains and save it for the following weekend. They don't intend to hold it in the rain. Cindy also thanked all who helped in anyway with the "68 hour Hunger Program".

Old Business – Rosanne talked more about the Carter Cemetery and the town's dealings with the insurance co. The plan was to glue together the stones which would have a 10 year guarantee. Rosanne said that at least the main stone should be replaced. She said the town is still working on it.

New Business – Ray Faulkner informed the group that there was a 1760 cape on Pleasant St. that was recently demolished. He thought it would be great if when the town gave a demolition permit to a company, they also require a short period of time for those who are interested in the history and architecture have a chance to take pictures to record that part of history of the town. Rosanne asked if Ray would like to head a committee to talk to the town and Ray said he would. Keith Searles was willing to serve on it and they would ask Eric Christian if he might be interested as well. Ray also told the members about an interesting program on June 11th at the Naval Historical Society in Kittery. Mr. Steve Woodman would be doing a presentation on "Early Gunsmiths".

Robert Fisher stood up to say that he will be asking people on Election Day on June 11th to sign a petition advocating for a town charter.

Acknowledgements – Roseanne thanked Helen Sullivan for providing the evening’s refreshments.

Evening’s program – Rosanne adjourned the business meeting at 7:45 and called on Program Chairman, Carol Zamarchi to introduce the evening’s speaker. Julie Johnson, Chairman of the Collections Committee stepped forward to do her presentation on “Caring for the Eliot Historical Society Collections”. Julie said that she has a group of ladies on her committee that help her with sorting and labeling. Julie said that Wendy Persig of the South Berwick Historical Society had suggested that we use the File Maker Pro computer program, which is what they use. Julie projected the files on the screen so she could show how she goes about listing each item in the collection. She told how the collection had been stored in a bunker at the Navy Shipyard for a while before moving it to the Eliot Fire Station. Now it is housed at Toby’s Sheet Metal facility. The collection consists of 1112 items. As she has time she photographs each item and then gives it a number. When it is clothing the numbers are sewed into the garment. Items are stored in acid free archival paper and boxes. Each box has a label with the number. Julie showed us a box that the society had acquired from Barbara & Roland Fernald which had items that belonged to Ella Dame. Ella Dame was a music teacher and was part of a well-known family in Eliot. Julie unwrapped the items including umbrellas, ladies’ dressy leather boots, hat pins, men’s leather gaiters from 1942, a tiny parasol, and items from the Fete held at Green Acre in 1888 & 1889 as a fundraiser for the Eliot Library. Jeanette Paul stood to say that Julie has a committee, but she does all of the computer entries herself and thanked her for her tireless work. Julie answered questions from the members and showed how it is possible to search in various ways with this program.

Helen Sullivan then served the refreshments.

Recorded by Dorothy Hansen

Substituting for Helen Goransson

