

## ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting – June 2, 2014

John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

President Rosanne Adams called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. There were 27 people in attendance.

**Secretary's Report** – The minutes of the meeting of May 5th were read and approved, with the clarification that the Richardson dedication was on May 10<sup>th</sup> and not when the students were there.

**Treasurer's Report** – The balance in the savings account as of 5/31/14 was \$20,937.61, with earned interest of \$1.72 during the month. The balance in the certificate of deposit was \$10,766.67, with interest of \$3.54. The checking account, which started at \$5,475.57, had a credit of \$10 for book sales, and debits for rent, electricity and insurance totaling \$718.61, leaving a balance of \$4,766.88. The report was approved as presented.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Correspondence** - We received a thank you note from the Epilepsy Foundation for the contribution we made in honor of John Sullivan.

**Building** – Paul Johnson thanked Bobbi Beavers for the two flags she obtained for the No. 8 Schoolhouse.

**Publicity and Education** – Carolyn Bogh reported that we had a very successful visit for the children at the schoolhouse. The cookies were delicious, thanks especially to Sally Hartford. An article was submitted for publication but shortened by the press. A couple of parents and family members did come the following day. Carolyn also wrote an article about the Richardson dedication which was sent to the Sentinel and the Portsmouth Herald.

**Fundraising** – Cindy Lentz reminded us that we do need to continue fundraising efforts to pay our various bill, so the July 12<sup>th</sup> house and garden tour is moving forward with hopes of at least 50-100 visitors. We need help with hosts at the houses in 2.5 hours shifts, baking, parking and traffic direction. The 8 person committee has pulled this together and now needs help from the other members. The tickets are \$15. Members suggested asking high school students and boy scouts and the police explorers group for help if needed. Paul Johnson pointed out that when we request funds from the town it helps to show that we are also doing our own fundraising. Cindy noted that



water will be sold at the Gazebo along with the tickets. Many suggestions followed to help make this a successful event.

**Membership, Collections, and Grants** – Nothing new to report.

**Old Business** – Rosanne told us about the fantastic website that Eric Christian has created about our cemeteries. He has tried to make it user-friendly but even though it is simple to use, it took a great effort on Eric's part to make it so. Denny Lentz added that it will allow us to add more information. Jeanette Paul said it makes genealogy work much easier, with everything at our fingertips. This has not yet been released to the public but they have been using the test site.

Rosanne reported that the Richardson memorial event with the wonderful tour of the Schoolhouse was so enjoyable to family members that they had to tear themselves away from the schoolhouse for the service dedicating the bench. There was a nice representation by family and historical society members.

Denny and Rosanne said that there is nothing yet on the Carter Cemetery, so they will contact them.

**New Business** - Rosanne announced that there is a tour of Columbus replicas on June 12<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$5 for our tour and she has reserved 30 places. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Badger's Island wharf and people can pay later. Or you can call and reserve a spot. We might car-pool to there from here.

Rosanne has heard from a lady in Canada who had a quilt associated with Lydia Chandler (probably the wife of Reverend Chandler). Rosanne asked the members if we would like it and they said yes. The quilt was signed by many Eliot citizens from around 1841.

Rosanne reported that the Conservation Commission is looking for volunteers. She said that Tad Baker, who is associated with the Chadbourne dig, wants to do some work for the preservation of the Punkintown archeological site. Those interested would meet with him to discuss how this is done and this would eventually be registered with the state and cared for. So far Denny, Ray Faulkner, Ernie (someone <sup>BRUNDAKE</sup> who has attended our meetings) and Jennifer Fox have expressed interest.

Zip Zamarchi reminded members that there is an exhibit of the Bellamy eagles at the Discover Portsmouth center. The cost is \$8. Rosanne added that the craftsman, ~~Robert Kessler~~, originally from Eliot, carved these, too. He lived up on Brixham Road.  
Walter Ketzler



Carol Zamarchi asked members to come up with ideas for increasing participation and membership. Members made a few suggestions around this, including having microphones and laser pointers and projection equipment and speakers available for our presenters, which improve the quality of the experience.

Rosanne thanked the Hartfords for the refreshments and reminded us that there is no meeting in July and the cookout is on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. and Carol Zamarchi began a group discussion about farming in Eliot. She asked members to name past and present farms around town. In the 1930's there were at least 60 farms in town. Many of those are gone now. Reminiscences extended to the many stores around town, too. There was also conversation around the C.S.A.'s and farmers markets available to add to the nutritional quality of our diets. Trends seem to be turning to encourage farming and local food consumption. Some members who grew up out of state talked about their experiences with farms and farmers, too.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Goransson - Secretary