

Minutes of the ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, September 8, 2014

President Rosanne Adams opened the meeting at 7pm. There were 25 present.

BUSINESS

Reports

1. The minutes of June 2, 2014 were read by Paul Johnson in the absence of Secretary Helen Goransson. Motion by Bob Fisher, 2nd Zip Zamarchi to approve as read. Membership approved the minutes.
2. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Toni Searles. Motion by Bob Fisher, 2nd Zip Zamarchi to approve as read. Membership approved the Treasurer's Report.
3. Helen Sullivan thanked the Society for the contribution made in memory of her husband John to the Epilepsy Society.
4. House Tour update: Rosanne Adams presented a card from Mrs. Caswell thanking the Society for the opportunity to participate in the recent "House Tour". Sylvia Moynahan reported that Honorary life memberships were given to the house owners as a thank you for their support. She also explained that businesses donated gift cards/certificates that were presented to those who participated. When asked Margie Brown thought that at least 80 tickets were sold. Carol Zamarchi reported that there was a profit of \$1182 after all bills had been paid.
5. Collections: Julie Johnson reported that Jeanette Paul has given to the Society copies of the letters written between her husband and her during the war containing the "code" they used to communicate as well as his service uniform.
6. Building Committee: Paul Johnson thanked Zip Zamarchi and Denny Lentz for keeping the grass mowed around the Grange Hall building and Julie Johnson for the work on the #8 Schoolhouse gardens.
7. Programs: Carolyn Bogh our new Program Coordinator asked people if they have any ideas for programs to contact her. She said that one of the things she would like to see is to have a microphone at the meetings. It is very difficult for many members to hear people who are speaking. Robert Fisher said that somewhere in the Grange is a system that he gave them and if it could be found perhaps it could be used for this. Paul Johnson said that the Society does have a microphone and speakers and he will set this up each month for the meetings. Carolyn asked the Society to think about whether we should consider paying speakers and what might be the amount limit that we would be willing to pay. Rosanne said she would place this issue for further discussion on a future agenda. There was also some talk about placing out a donation jar at our meetings such as South Berwick does. The use of a sandwich board that could be put out the week of our meeting was discussed. Paul Johnson offered to look into the purchase of an A-frame sign.
8. August Meeting: Robert Fisher spoke about what a nice gathering was held at the August meeting at the Boat Basin. The cookout was well attended and it was a wonderful evening, especially the ice cream!
9. Fund Raising: Carol Zamarchi reported that the Committee has decided to participate in the Holiday Bazaar at the Middle School and they are seeking ideas for Christmas Ornaments that they can make. H. J. H.
10. Carter Cemetery update: Zip Zamarchi reported that the town had received insurance monies and this was used to repair the broken stone and put up new granite fence posts. He and Denny Lentz then went and set up the downed stones, and installed some metal rails to replace the iron ones that were badly bent. The Highway Department moved the bent rails and broken post pieces to the #8 Schoolhouse property. Paul Johnson expressed concern that the neighbors might not appreciate these being left there. Rosanne Adams stated that plans for the granite pieces are to use them at the Maple Avenue cemetery to mark the boundary by the road and that the Road Commissioner had offered to straighten out the rails. Rosanne and Ray Faulkner will be talking more with the Town this fall about this to see what they can work out.

11. **Ship Tour:** Paul Johnson gave a report on the tour of the Nina and Pinta ships this summer organized by Rosanne. He spoke of how small these ships actually were and how hard it was to believe they made it across the Atlantic Ocean! They were both constructed using 15th century craftsmen methods and built in Brazil. The captain of the Pinta was tour guide and explained all aspects of life on the ship. It was very educational.
12. **Society Website:** The President noted that our website has a whole new look thanks to the work of Eric Christian and he has been able to put a page on it where we will be able to map the locations of the cemeteries in town, along with information on them. Eric explained that he is using google maps and the locations of the cemeteries can be plotted using geographical coordinates. He spoke to looking for collaboration with the schools and having students help to input the data onto the website once they are given training. Carolyn offered to contact the schools once Eric has the information ready.
13. **Punkintown:** Rosanne asked for volunteers to help with preservation of Punkintown archeological sites. At a recent meeting with Tad Baker it was decided that the best way to help preserve the sites is to have regular inspections. Thoughts are do walk the area once a month or every other month during spring/summer fall. Several members of the Historical Society have expressed an interest in doing this. It is also planned to involve the Police Auxillary and Scouts. Anyone interested can please let Rosanne know.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Eliot Festival Day:** Carolyn Bogh passed around a sign up sheet for those willing to provide baked goods for the sale table. She reported that we have the same spot as last year.
2. **Benefit Concert:** Rosanne announced a benefit concert to raise money for AED's to be placed in Town Buildings. September 27th the Saxaderms will give a concert at the Marshwood High School auditorium. Tickets are \$10 and Rosanne has some for sale tonight. The ticket purchase is also an entry to a raffle for a turkey from Bondgarden Farm.
3. **William Fogg Library event:** Richard Bogh invited members to a program at the Library on September 24th from 6-7pm. Speaker is Laura Henry who will talk on "Russia and Foreign Policy". This is part of a series of talks made possible through a grant from the state and the US Foreign Policy Speaking Service. It is free but people need to sign up as seating is limited. Richard took names of those wishing to attend.
4. **William Fogg Library raffle fundraiser :** Richard Bogh announced that raffle tickets are \$10. There will be 11 drawing with various prizes. All tickets, winning or not remain in the drawing through the big drawing to be held on December 12th when there will be 2 prizes given. Only 250 tickets will be sold.
5. **Community Forum:** Bobbie Beavers announced that she will be hosting her next Community Forum on September 15th from 7-8:30pm at the Grange Hall. The upcoming ballot questions will be discussed with presentations on both sides of the issues.
6. **Boat Trip:** Carolyn Bogh invited members to join for a boat trip on Monday, September 29th in Portland to take a trip out on the mail boat in Casco Bay. Participants will be leaving from the Grange at 8am; driving to Portland; and following the boat ride having dinner at D'Millas restaurant. Those wanting to go on this trip should let Carolyn know.

7. The President thanked Toni and Keith Searles and Jeanette Paul for the nights refreshments. Next month Bob and Rosanne Fisher will have charge of refreshments.

The Meeting was closed and Rosanne then conducted a "school session" with the members. Using photographs of places and events and questions the group explored the history of Eliot.

Respectfully submitted – Rosanne Adams