

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting – December 1, 2014 John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

The business portion of the meeting began at 7 p.m. There were 29 people present.

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved with one correction.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Toni Searles presented both the annual report and the November report. The details of the November report are attached and, to summarize for the period 12/1/13-11/30/14, the balance in the savings account was \$23,758.59, with annual earned interest of \$21.42. The balance in the certificate of deposit was \$10,788.39, with annual interest of \$43.05. The checking account balance was \$9,318.79 after debits for operational funds, rent, donations, gifts, property insurance, utilities and fundraising expenses, totaling \$3,333.77 for the last 12 months, and credits for dues, book sales, donations, gifts, fundraising and from the town of Eliot totaling \$7,852.44. The November report and the annual report were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Correspondence – Rosanne Adams reported that we received a \$500 donation from Beverly Forsyth, the granddaughter of George Kennard, along with a promise to donate other items to our collection. Rosanne wrote to her to thank her and remind her that we are happy to receive any historical artifacts she would like to share with us.

Donald Smith sent postcards of Rosemary Cottage and he said that he had spent time there. She sent him a thank you note and he wrote back that he will look for more and send a write-up of his memories of the place. These will go to our collection.

Rosanne announced that on March 28th is a national history competition for teenagers consisting of juried presentations. We can think about pursuing this further if interested.

The Maine Old Cemeteries Association (MOCA) is looking for volunteers and a site for hosting a conference.

We have received a copy of the Kittery Historical Society's Artifacts magazine.

The Great Works Regional Land Trust sent a solicitation for a donation. We usually give \$100. It was moved and seconded to donate \$100 to them. This was approved.

Building Committee – Paul Johnson reported that the large pothole in the parking lot has been repaired thanks to the material donated by the town and Denny Lentz, Zip Zamarchi and himself spreading it. We will send a thank you note to Joel Moulton on behalf of us and the Grange.

Public Relations and Programs - Carolyn Bogh noted that it is not easy to find presenters, but Dick McKenney has agreed to describe his research on his property as the program for January. In February, Jules Weyers, a very interesting person, will be the speaker. He is the one who designed the town seal. He was a resident of The Netherlands during WWII, a resistance fighter, and has also saved his home from destruction and has proudly refurbished it. He is in his 90's and if, for some reason, he is not well enough to present in February, then our program will be to share how we met our spouses, in honor of Valentine's Day. In March, Bob McKenzie will be the presenter. Bob is known for his toys and trains. Carol Zamarchi offered to help with the publicity for the upcoming meetings.

Fundraising Committee – Cindy Lentz reported that the committee's annual luncheon will be on December 12th at 1:00 p.m. at the Stage Neck Inn in York. We will leave from the Grange at 12:30 p.m. She also reminded us about the annual Holiday Fair at Marshwood High School on Saturday, December 6th. The bakers will henceforth be known as "History in the Baking" and Ruth Drake made a sign to display that. Items may be brought in on Friday afternoon or early that Saturday morning. In March, the next fundraiser will be the annual antiques and valuables appraisal day. We are considering a yard sale in May or June if we have enough items to do this. New fundraising ideas are always welcome.

Membership – Sylvia Moynahan reminded the group that with the new year it is time to renew your memberships, unless you are a lifetime member. She reported there was one new member that night.

Old Business – Rosanne reported on the project which Eric Christian held to clean the Frost house and garrison with the Spezios and his son. Paul Johnson and Zip Zamarchi also helped. Several trailer-loads of growth were removed and there was more work done in early November to clean up the powder house on the property. It looks really nice now. Photos were passed around.

Carolyn Bogh said we will meet at the Grange at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 16th for the Portland Mansion tour and she has also made reservations at Dimillo's for afterwards.

Rosanne reported that a man had found some gravestones in his side yard and it turns out that it is a Remick cemetery on State Road. The group probed it and found stones buried pretty deep. Paul Johnson described how the stones were all laying flat and had piles on top of them. Rosanne and her mother got them out with Paul and they found headstones and pedestals and foundations for these and eventually rolled them back into place. Denny Lentz helped to place the stones. This now has 3 graves with stones in place in a cemetery we had no record of before, as it was obstructed by trees and stones were wrapped in tree roots. There seem to be more than 7 graves there.

New Business – Bob Fisher reported on behalf of the **Nominating Committee** consisting of himself, Carol Zamarchi and Margie Brown. The slate of officers they proposed were: Rosanne Adams - President, Paul Johnson - Vice President, Helen Goransson - Secretary, and Toni Searles - Treasurer, and directors Carol and Zip Zamarchi and Eric Christian. No other nominations came forward so Jack McDonough moved to accept the slate as presented and Helen Sullivan seconded. The slate was approved. The Nominating Committee for next year will be Cindy Lentz, Sylvia Moynahan and Carol Zamarchi, with Sylvia serving as chair of the committee.

Rosanne thanked Carol and Zip and Cindy for the evening's refreshments.

While everyone had refreshments we enjoyed a show and tell of various historical items. These included a Boy Scout yearbook from 1919, an antique nutcracker in the shape of a dog, a 45-starred American flag from when Utah joined the union from somewhere between 1896 and 1907, brass plates etched by an artist of a young woman from around 1905, an insulator and railroad spike from the Rosemary electric trolley stop with photos of the tracks and station from the early 1900's, a butter mold from a dairy farm, a fox hounds horn used in Texas, school photos from Eliot with students and teachers whom Jeannette Paul identified, a washboard made of glass from the days when metal was being used for the war effort, an autograph booklet from around 1904, powder horns, little salt spoons, a diary from Mr. Staples from 1954, old primary school books, an atlas from 1926, and Carolyn Bogh sang from her childhood a parody about a kangaroo of the song Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Goransson - Secretary