

## **ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting – April 6, 2015**

John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

Vice President Paul Johnson opened the meeting at 7 p.m. in the absence of the president.

**Secretary's Report** – Tabled as there were no minutes available to be read.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer's report was read and approved. See attached.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Building Committee** – Report from Paul Johnson that a wooden sign would be made for the Schoolhouse.

**Fundraising Committee** – Reported a yard sale will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Schoolhouse. They also reported that the antique appraisal fundraiser was held in March but attendance was down from last year. Discussed that maybe next year it should be held in April. We also need to emphasize more what the price is to have antiques appraised. Lastly, a reminder was made to get the Kennebunk Savings Bank ballots in either on line or at the bank to vote by April 15<sup>th</sup> for the Historical Society to receive funding.

**Public Relations and Programs** – Carolyn Bogh said there was great newspaper coverage for tonight's program. Also, May 15<sup>th</sup> is when the Schoolhouse will be open for the Eliot Elementary Grade 2 students to visit and Carolyn has talked to the principal at the Central School in South Berwick and they would like to bring Grade 2 Central School students to the Schoolhouse. Jeanette Paul said that two times she has met older students and adults who saw her speak at the Schoolhouse over the years. She was very pleased they remembered.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Julie Johnson stated that she had audited the books and an audit of financial records of 2014 is attached.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Zip Zamarchi stated that students would be coming to clean cemeteries April 15<sup>th</sup> as part of their community service.

It was voted and approved to donate \$300 to Marshwood High School's "We The People" Constitution competition in Washington, D.C. this year.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:30.

### **Program**

Ben Smith spoke to the group. A Civil War historian of the 9<sup>th</sup> Maine, he was especially interested in the assault on Battery Wagner. That bloody campaign has been immortalized in the film "Glory." The 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts all-black regiment led the charge on Battery Wagner. The soldiers were slaughtered horribly by the Rebs. The second wave of the assault on the battery was by the 9<sup>th</sup> Maine Colonel Sabine Emery, who led the second assault and was badly wounded. Emery, an 1858 Colby College graduate, died in 1868 at the age of 34 as a result of those wounds. Smith had tried to find Emery's burial spot for years, but no one seemed to know where it was. Finally, through records of Evergreen Cemetery, he discovered that Emery lies in the Gould family tomb at Eastern Cemetery in Portland, ME. Smith was so thrilled that he led the initiative to request a soldier's stone from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In June of 2014 a dedication ceremony was held with re-enactors from the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts and a proper monument was installed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Sullivan – Acting Recording Secretary