

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting – January 4, 2016

President Rosanne was absent so Vice President Paul Johnson presided over the meeting. There were approximately 30 people present. The meeting was called to order at around 7 p.m.

Secretary's Report –The minutes of the December meeting were approved with one correction to the list of officers elected at that meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The report for the month of December was approved. With credits from dues, interest, the Christmas Fair and the sale of books, and debits for rent, utilities and supplies to build out the new storage space, the ending balances were: 1) checking account \$7,417.09, 2) certificate of deposit \$10,835.19 and 3) savings account \$29,310.99. The report is attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Correspondence – There was a letter written and sent to the town about the Libbey development and the input of the Historical Society in future projects submitted to the Planning Board, as authorized at the last meeting.

Programs – Carolyn Bogh said the next meeting is a business meeting as announced earlier. She also informed us that Matt Sanzone, a teacher at Marshwood High School who advises the students who compete each year in “We the People”, will be the speaker in March and will bring some students from that program.

Fundraising – The Christmas Fair items earned us \$287.

Membership – Sylvia Moynahan reminded us that with the new year comes membership renewals, unless you are a lifetime member.

Collections – Keith Searles donated a certificate which was awarded to the town of Eliot for Jacob Buckholtz's military service during WWII.

Building Committee - Paul Johnson reported on the build-out of the storage space downstairs in the Grange. An enthusiastic and hard-working group consisting of Paul, Denny, Bob, Bud, Keith, Zip, Jack, Ernie, Skip and Carol (food), have gotten most of the work done and the collection has already been moved into the new space, although some finish work needs to be completed. This translates to a monthly savings in rent,

since we pay \$100 vs. the \$155 we were paying at Rent-a-Space. Many thanks to all who helped.

OLD BUSINESS

Paul reported that Rosanne submitted the budget funding request to the town on December 22nd (attached).

NEW BUSINESS

A suggestion was made to put items on display downstairs at each meeting which people can view when we have our meetings.

In our secretary's absence next month, Polly McDonough agreed to be recording secretary at the February meeting.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

We thanked Julie Johnson for the evening's refreshments and next month Helen Sullivan and Jan Cerabona will provide the refreshments.

Program

Dick McKenney has lived in Eliot for 38 years and became interested in the history of his neighborhood, which is the Goodwin Road area in the vicinity of Ambush Rock. He presented some of the fruits of his research over the years. He mentioned the Joshua Hubbard house, and its current inhabitant did a master's thesis on its history. Mainly, though, Dick spoke about the Heard family. John Heard came to America in 1645 and settled in the Sturgeon Creek area with around 200 acres of land. He was a selectman of Kittery in 1648, a prominent citizen, wealthy and very much like the Shapleighs and Frosts in importance. The Heards and Frosts are linked in history in a number of ways, but the first known link is the accidental shooting of Warwick Heard at the hands of Charles Frost, both of whom were young boys. Warwick was mistaken for a goose rustling in the tall grass and Charles was hunting and shot him. Later in history, Phoebe Heard and Charles Frost were killed in the Ambush Rock attack by the native Americans while John Heard survived. He remarried Jane Cole Littlefield. The ensuing offspring and generations had fewer and fewer surviving males and the Heard name in Eliot eventually ended. However, through the daughters a total of 12 generations of

Heards occupied the Heard properties in Eliot. Among the most notable of the recent ancestors were the Bartletts who worked the land up and down Depot Road.

Dick then spoke about Abigail Heard Hubbard who occupied the house on the hill with her husband Moses Hubbard. Dick went on to describe the Heard will and how the land was divided up. Some properties have been transferred back and forth over the generations to farmers who needed the land.

Dick told other anecdotes, including the history of Johnson Lane, the struggles of Sally Paul Hubbard and others raising a challenged child and other stories related to the Hubbard house, and Bertram Tuttle's work and ingenuity with water-related projects such as dams and water collection systems and pools he built when the town of Eliot was struggling with water shortages. He encouraged folks to check out the little blue house at the end of Ambush Rock Road, which was built around 1745-50, one of the oldest houses around.

Respectfully submitted, Helen Goransson, Secretary