

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting - March 7, 2016

President Rosanne called the meeting to order. There were approximately 30 people present.

Secretary's Report -The minutes of the February meeting were approved with one correction.

Treasurer's Report - The report for the month of February was approved. The ending balances were \$7,222.05 in checking, \$29,313.32 in savings, and \$10,842.55 in the certificate of deposit. The report is attached. In addition, Julie Johnson provided the annual audit for the period 12/1/14 through 11/30/15. There were no discrepancies found.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs - Carolyn Bogh clarified that the next meeting will feature John Richardson and his Eliot-related military memorabilia. These items come from his father, Herman Richardson, his grandfather Gordon Richardson, Joseph and Rebecca Frost, and Ralph Sylvester Bartlett.

Governance - Carolyn Bogh reported on the progress of the Board members who are focusing on our by-laws and other aspects of our organization's governance. Rosanne, Carolyn, Eric Christian and Dick Bogh have been working on various aspects of this project to update our documents. Rosanne summarized what has been accomplished to date and the group will meet during the month of March and April towards finalizing this project for presentation to the membership at the May meeting.

Building - Paul Johnson submitted the final report on the construction of the storage room at the Grange. The report is attached.

Fundraising - Cindy Lentz had flyers for the annual Antiques Appraisal fundraiser for members to take and put up around the towns and give to friends and neighbors. The event is Saturday, April 9th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please bake and bring food for

event is Saturday, April 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please bake and bring food for refreshments, and spread the word and plan to attend this fundraiser. Flyer is attached.

Membership – Sylvia Moynahan reported that there are currently 38 life members and 14 annual members. She is available to receive payments from the annual members.

Collections – Denny Lentz was given anonymously a package of historical items from the Fogg Library. He invited members to look at these.

OLD BUSINESS

Fran Hartford has been recovering at St. Anne's rehabilitation facility. We wish him well in his recovery.

NEW BUSINESS

Helen Goransson offered tickets to see The Marvelous Wonderettes at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre as an ad hoc fundraiser. She passed around a signup sheet for free tickets with the hope that those who go will give a donation to the EHS.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

We thanked the McDonoughs and the Browns for the evening's refreshments.

Program

Matt Sanzone has been a high school social studies teacher for 15 years and is the advisor at Marshwood High School to the student group that participates in an activity

adviser at Marshwood High School to the student group that participates in an activity called "We the People". When Matt first arrived at MHS he noticed that there was no civic education. He came from a political science background and understood the importance of young people learning to be responsible and knowledgeable citizens. The "We the People" national competition is based on students learning all that they can about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. This program began in 1987 at the bicentennial of the ratification of the Constitution. This is a nation-wide competition that starts at the state level with students learning 36 lessons from 6 units, beginning with what influenced the founding fathers to its evolution to the present day and current issues. The Constitution is 229 years old, the second oldest constitution in the world that is still in effect. It is a treasure trove of discussion topics and a great tool for students to learn. He divides his students into 6 teams for the 6 units of study and they become experts of their respective units and then share their knowledge with the others. For the competition, they must simulate what it would be like to present their topics in a congressional hearing. Thanks to Matt's skills and passion in his teaching, the Marshwood team has been the state champions for the past nine years and have gone on to Washington for the national competition, which, this year, will be at the University of Maryland. The team has 4 minutes to make an opening statement, 6 minutes to answer questions and be challenged by the panel, and the

following day they have to answer 2 research questions. There are 50 state teams and a few wild card teams. The top 10 scoring teams go into the final round, which takes 11 minutes, in the Congressional hearing room in Washington. The awards ceremony is the following night, with recognition of the top teams and various regional and unit awards. This is a wonderful experience for our students as they also get to visit important sites in our nation's capital during their free time. Students become much more engaged and aware of what goes on in government and many who have had this experience have gone on to be teachers, continue studies in political science, work for the government, but mainly become better citizens. 23 students will be participating this year. There will be a mock hearing on Saturday, April 9th, at MHS, for those interested in seeing them in action. We proposed that Matt come back with students to show us a mock hearing at one of our meetings. He

Matt come back with students to show us a mock hearing at one of our meetings. He can be reached at matt.sanzone@rsu35.org if you wish to know more or make a donation towards their trip.

Respectfully submitted, Helen Goransson, Secretary