

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting – May 2, 2016

President Rosanne Fisher called the meeting to order. There were about 23 people present. We wished happy birthday to the Boghs, Rosanne and Bobbi Beavers.

Secretary's Report –The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report – The report for the months of March and April were approved. The balances as of end-April were \$6,413.42 in checking, \$29,320.63 in savings, and \$10,846.00 in the certificate of deposit (reports attached). Income came from dues, book sales, and the appraisals fundraiser. Expenditures included rent, electricity, insurance, postage, annual report filing, books, and expenses of the appraisal event. A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed with no objections to rename the CD and saving accounts The Building Fund. All members were also in favor of having the Board determine the best way to invest these funds.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs - Rosanne clarified that the next meeting, which was pre-empted in order for members to be able to attend a town budget meeting in April, will feature John Richardson and his Eliot-related military memorabilia.

Collections – In Julie Johnson's absence, Paul Johnson reported that the collection is getting organized in the new space at the Grange, with some additional shelving and a donated computer desk. He invited those in attendance to check out the room.

Rosanne added that we received a donation from Robin Ellis of the Ralph Remick papers from the house at 10 State Road. We have also received past Eliot Festival Days records and a complete collection of "The Curmudgeon" from Rachel Remick.

Correspondence – Helen Sullivan reported that a get well card was sent to Denny Lentz and thank you notes to Hap Moore and Lee Horowitz.

Membership – Sylvia Moynahan reported that we have one new annual member.

Building – Paul Johnson announced that 2 work sessions were planned: 1) pick up rocks in the grass and then mow the lawn at the Grange on May 7th at 9:00 a.m., and 2) paint the front gable and clean up the inside of the #8 Schoolhouse on May 21st at 9:00 a.m. in preparation for the June 3rd visit by the school children.

Fundraising – The antiques appraisal event earned \$625 minus the costs for the use of the church and other expenses. Sylvia Moynahan reported that Hap Moore suggested skipping a year before doing another one.

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Hirst said the renewal of the insurance policy was \$738 vs. about \$638 last year. It was decided that the EHS secretary will keep the policy on file.

Helen Sullivan moved to donate \$100 to the Great Works Regional Land Trust as we have in past years. This was seconded by Polly McDonough. The motion passed.

Grant Hirst made a motion to support the “We the People” program as we have done in the past for \$300. This was seconded by Denny Lentz. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Jan Cerabona reported on a local stories project which will add to Eliot Elementary School’s town historical unit. They have applied for a grant from the Marshwood Educational Foundation for students to conduct research on rural areas and to add to the places students will visit. Jan will provide us more information as this progresses.

Jan also told us about a school historical murals project. For more information see [www.lauriedowney.net /schoolmurals/process](http://www.lauriedowney.net/schoolmurals/process).

We thanked the Boghs and Robert Fisher for the evening’s refreshments. Next meeting’s refreshments will be from the Searles and Jeannette Paul.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

PROGRAM

This meeting was dedicated to a review by members of the proposed by-laws.

Some highlights of the discussion were:

- 1) We will keep the meeting format the same.
- 2) We will add that our mission includes educating the town of Eliot.

- 3) We will replace throughout the document the word “files” with “archival files”.
- 4) We should have redundancy for the post office box key so it is not just one person who can gain access to it. One more key holder will be added.
- 5) The secretary will submit a report for the EHS to the annual town report.
- 6) The treasurer will check on the approval of our budget request to the town.
- 7) The treasurer will ensure that we are in compliance of IRS reporting requirements.
- 8) The terms of the board of directors will be staggered so there is one new director each year.
- 9) We will review our finances at least once every three years.
- 10) Add language about how we make changes to and call scheduled and annual meetings.
- 11) A copy of the by-laws should be given to every new member.
- 12) The program chair will poll members once/year for what they want to see.
- 13) The membership chair will provide a list of members once/year.
- 14) Language needs to be added for the Grants chair’s duties.
- 15) We will add to the Building Committee that it may also be involved in other volunteer building-related projects and that it is charged with finding a permanent home for the EHS.

Respectfully submitted, Helen Goransson, Secretary