

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting – January 9, 2017

President Paul Johnson welcomed the 26 people who attended this meeting and thanked Jan Cerabona and Helen Sullivan for the evening's refreshments on short notice due to Julie Johnson's injury.

Secretary's Report –The minutes of the December meeting were approved as read with one correction noted.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Ashley gave the report for the month ending December 31, 2016. The report was approved as presented. The balances were \$8,521.79 in checking and \$40,219.04 in the Building Fund accounts (report attached). Income came from Christmas Fair sales, raffle tickets, books and maps sold, Acadia Publishing royalties, donations, return of start up money from fundraisers, and bank interest. Expenditures were for rental and electricity.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Correspondence – Helen Sullivan reported that she sent a get well card to Julie Johnson who broke her arm recently. Helen asked to be contacted if there were others in need of cards to be sent on behalf of the Eliot Historical Society.

Membership – Sylvia Moynahan reported that we received \$50 from Florence Moulton's son who sends this every year on behalf of his mother. Sylvia circulated a form during the meeting to provide current information for the membership list.

Fundraising – Cindy Lentz reported that we raised over \$200 from our raffles and the winners of the items were delighted with their items and had great plans for using them. Raffles seem to be a good fundraiser for us.

Collections – Bud Moynahan donated a clock that belonged to his aunt. It was from the Laura B. Dame School. Bud thought that it might be put in the No. 8 Schoolhouse with an explanatory plaque for visitors to read.

Building Committee – The Building Committee will meet the following week to address buckling floors in the Grange building.

Education – Jan Cerabona thanked Rosanne Fisher for the newspaper article that was published about the MEF project with our second graders. Jan noted that we need

mentors for our second graders and it would be helpful for those who volunteer to do so to describe what area of Eliot history they are willing to share. Also, there are plans to update the old coloring book about Eliot. Jan passed around a sign-up sheet for those who wish to help with education projects in this way.

Grants – Helen Goransson has followed up with The Fabulous Find regarding the status of our request for funding. She has not heard back from them yet.

OLD BUSINESS

We discussed the concept of having paid speakers for our meetings. Paul Johnson moved that we authorize Carolyn Bough to have a \$200 annual budget for those speakers who require a fee. He also suggested having a donation jar out at each meeting and see what it brings in. Jack McDonough seconded. There was some discussion to make this amount \$300. We would advertise our meetings more to expand our audiences. It was suggested that we give unpaid speakers a copy of the book “Images of Eliot” in appreciation for their presentation. The motion to budget \$200 for speakers during the year passed.

Our by-laws specify that the board will suggest an auditor for the past year’s finances. Julie Johnson was selected to be the auditor this time around.

We need to identify new members for the Nomination Committee. If interested, please let Paul know.

NEW BUSINESS

Keith Searles found an insurance policy dating back to the 1870’s. There was at that time an insurance company with many of our famous townspeople serving as members of the company. He will give this to the Collections Committee.

Bobbi Beavers is now also a member of the board of the Old Berwick Historical Society and their fundraising committee. She brought in brochures of their upcoming year’s programs. She also recommended the Kittery Maritime Museum as a place worth visiting and perhaps planning a field trip for our members.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

PROGRAM

We watched a slide show of historical photos highlighting our old schoolhouses, memorable buildings, roads, electric trollies and trains which Zip Zamarchi pulled together for our viewing pleasure. Members who remembered these sights chimed in with knowledge of many of these places. This collection and the reminiscing of those scenes would seem like a good starting point for that Eliot history project matching second graders with mentors from the town who personally know some of Eliot's history.

Respectfully submitted, Helen Goransson, Secretary