

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the Meeting – September 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Secretary's Report - The minutes of the June meeting were read and accepted with one addition noted.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Pam Ashley presented the June-August 2018 financial reports and these were approved. As of end-August the Building Fund total was \$40,340.61 and the checking account balance was \$13,699.54. Income during the period came from donations, membership, the fudge raffle and book sales. Expenses were for rent, electricity, and a contribution to the Great Works Regional Land Trust.

Membership - Sylvia Moynahan reported that there were several new memberships this summer thanks mainly to the opening of the Schoolhouse. She had membership cards available.

Collections – Julie Johnson announced that there was a display downstairs of schoolbooks from 1943-67. She also reported that we sent postcards to the Dorchester Historical Society from the late 1800's from Dorchester Oil and Heating company which were given to us, and we received a nice thank you note for that.

Building – Paul Johnson requested volunteers for mowing that week. He also announced that the flagpole at the schoolhouse will be repaired soon.

Publicity – Carolyn Bogh thanked Rosanne Adams for her help with advertising the evening's speaker, which resulted in a very good turnout.

Programs – Carolyn announced that next month's program will be Memories of Eliot. In November, Susan Reed will provide music from the WWI and WWII eras, along with her own compositions. She also informed the group that Rosanne will be on the panel at a presentation by the Old Berwick Historical Society discussing the family of Black Will, along with Pat Wall, the author of the book about enslaved people in our region, and other panelists.

Education - Jan Cerabona reported that she has enjoyed her activities at the Schoolhouse open-houses each month. The next opening was scheduled for Eliot Festival Day weekend. She added that work is being done on grants for the Eliot Elementary School's local history unit.

Grants – Helen Goransson reported that work is moving along on the submission of a grant proposal to the Horizon Foundation which is due on or before October 10th. That grant will provide supplies and opportunities at the No. 8 Schoolhouse and the local schools. She will also be submitting another proposal to The Fabulous Find.

Old Business

Preparations for Eliot Festival Day will include clean-up and preparation of the Schoolhouse. We will be selling chalkboards and chalk, along with marbles and shooters, and having activities for visitors. Jan Cerabona requested yarn for projects, volunteers for the clean-up day of September 17th, and helpers.

Debbie Scribner has taken the initiative to organize the sale of a town of Eliot flag. She will be getting it printed and has priced it out. She will have order forms for the 3' x 5' flags and would need an order of 50 flags for the best price. She will have a table at the Fire Station during Eliot Festival Day for sign-ups. The price will be around \$50 per flag. Because of the processing time, if we want these as possible holiday gifts we need to move forward with this soon.

Discussion on all other old business and new business was tabled until October so we could get to our speaker, Claire Bloom, who would speak to us about her experiences on the U.S.S. Constitution.

At that moment, the power went out all over Eliot. In a room lit by iPhones we waited and hoped that the power would come on so Claire could give her presentation. In the meantime, we discussed the continued need for someone from Eliot to serve on the board of the Great Works Regional Land Trust, we talked about the database of cemeteries in the state of Maine, we learned of the upcoming memorial service and luncheon for the late Paul Rousseau (a past officer of the Eliot Historical Society and fine member of our community), we heard about The Maine Memory Project where photos from one-room schoolhouses can be found, and Bobbi Beavers updated us on activities of the Old Berwick Historical Society, historical and nature walks with the Great Works Regional Land Trust, and were reminded that the Kittery Historical Museum is also worth visiting.

Since power was not restored, we adjourned the meeting and hoped that Claire Bloom could return and give her presentation in the spring when her calendar and availability opens up again. She did suggest that in the future, especially for those attending the meeting who wish to hear the speaker, that we should plan our presentations for the first

part of the meeting and then have the business portion of the meeting following the speaker and refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Goransson