

## **ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the Meeting – October 1, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Secretary's Report** - The minutes of the September meeting were read and accepted.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Pam Ashley presented the September financial report and it was approved. As of end-September the Building Fund total was \$40,346.70 and the checking account balance was \$13,783.00. Income during the period came from donations, memberships, the fudge raffle and book sales. Expenses were for rent and electricity. Jan Cerabona estimated that about \$50 in donations came from the Schoolhouse events and she suggested keeping track of what income came from the Schoolhouse so we could justify the purchase of schoolhouse-related supplies in the future.

**Correspondence** – Helen Sullivan reported that Ruth Hirst had surgery and she will be sending out a card.

**Membership** - Sylvia Moynahan will update the membership list next month and she encouraged visitors to join.

**Collections** – We have received memorabilia about the Lincoln School. Carolyn Bogh spoke of a donation of a booklet from 1957 that describes the signing of the Peace Treaty of Portsmouth.

**Building** – Paul Johnson thanked Zip Zamarchi for his lawn mowing and he also reported that the flagpole has been fixed.

**Programs** – Carolyn announced that next month's program will be the music of WWI and WWII performed by Sudan Reid. December will be the annual party and show and tell. Next year one of our programs will be Len Bogh talking about the small school experience on an island in Maine.

**Education** - Jan Cerabona received donations of items from last year's second graders. There is also a service project of making soap to help raise funds for the one-room schoolhouse. Also, she and Rosanne Adams put together chalkboards and marble sets for sale and donations at the Schoolhouse. Eliot Festival Day weekend was also a good turnout for the open schoolhouse activities.

**Grants** – Helen Goransson reported that the grant proposal to the Horizon Foundation has been submitted and notifications are expected by November 15<sup>th</sup>. That grant would 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**

Zip is making progress on the historical plaques project.

Ruth Drake reported on the status of the cabinet restoration project.

The Shapleigh collection storage contract is still under discussion and on hold for now.

Jan and Rosanne were joined by Paul and Julie Johnson at the Schoolhouse during Eliot Festival Day weekend. The second graders' projects were also displayed. Over 30 people stopped in on the Saturday and a few more on Sunday. Jan reported that it's a great experience meeting new people and she believes it has been very worthwhile to be open and she highly recommends volunteering.

Deb Scribner reported that during Eliot Festival Day the order forms for the town flag were available at the Eliot Fire Department and lots of people took them. The flags can also be ordered on Election Day. Orders are trickling in and the deadline is November 10<sup>th</sup>. The flags must be prepaid and if we do not get 50 orders then the money will be refunded to all who ordered.

Rosanne reported that the Grange met and they are addressing what needs to be done in the building for safety, including replacing emergency batteries and bad fuses. They are working on emergency lighting, even in the parking lot.

### **New Business**

Paul Johnson attended a conference on software for cemeteries and their databases. There are about 165 cemeteries in Eliot. He met with Town Manager Dana Lee about the software, proposing that if the town purchased the software we can do the data entry. Lee suggested putting it in our budget to the town, so Paul is working on that. FYI, Rosanne has pictures of every gravestone up to the year 2010. This request must be submitted by the end of October to the Budget Committee.

We thanked Bob Fisher and Rosanne for the wonderful refreshments.

## **Program**

The theme of the program was for people to reminisce about growing up in Eliot. Mary and David Raitt have donated items from the Lincoln School. Florence Raitt had taught there. There were slates, shoes, clothes, pictures, a pointer and other school items. Among the anecdotes shared, we learned that Florence Moulton was among the teachers who could not teach once they were married. Florence Trefethen was remembered for using a yardstick on misbehaving students' hands. Jeanette Paul shared a number of memories, including the Scout Circus at the Locust Farm on River Road. Ruth Drake shared a picture of the placement of a wreath on a World War I monument, as well as the roster at the shipyard with their pay schedules. She and Nancy Cultrera talked about the farms on Beech Road. Other long-time Eliot residents chimed in with stories of their own.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Goransson