

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Minutes of the Meeting – March 4th, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. The business part of the meeting followed the evening's program at 8:40pm, but is summarized first in these minutes. Tonight's Fudge Raffle was announced @ \$1/raffle. Winners will be drawn during the refreshments. Thanks to Doris Grover for donating the fudge.

Secretary's Report: Tracey read the minutes of the February meeting which were accepted with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Pam Ashley presented the treasurer's report which was accepted with no corrections.

Committee updates were presented:

Correspondence: Paul confirmed there was a \$200 donation in memory of Jeannette Paul given by Sandy and Mark Gagnon. Paul sent a thank you note to the Gagnons, as well as the elementary school 2nd graders for their fundraising efforts of over \$400.

Membership: Sylvia confirmed that the organization had two 2 new members: Richard Lowe and Steve & Barb Cumin.

Program: Carolyn confirmed that the programs are set through June. As recommended by Polly McDonough, next month David Ramsey from South Berwick will be speaking and providing in-depth information on Rachel Carson, Margaret Chase Smith and Kate Furbish. In May, a presentation on the refurbishing of USS constitution by Cmdr Claire Bloom has been scheduled. In June we will remember Jeanette and all she brought to the organization. Carolyn also extended her appreciation to Polly and those providing the recommendations for program speakers.

Fundraising: Cindy Lentz presented the update on Lasagna dinner, speaking on behalf of new chairman, Margie Brown. The committee is looking for volunteers to provide food to support the event including meat, veggie and cheese lasagna and brownies. In the past years, volunteers received free dinners for helping, however this year, all will be required to pay to support the fundraiser. The event is scheduled for March 23 from 4:30-6:30pm. Looking forward additional volunteers to assist with food.

Education: Jan Cerabona provided an update on the events scheduled for March 29th at the Grange, the School House and the Fogg House. Jan is looking for the three quilts and would like to get a volunteer to speak to each of them between the hours of 9-2pm. Lunch will be held at the Grange between the events. Jan also confirmed the event scheduled at the School house for April 3rd and 4th. She will be working on updating the display at the Elementary school. The plan is to maintain the display throughout the year with information about the history of the town. The next display will be books on the schools of Eliot. Jan will travel with Lidia to Herman, Maine to hear about the plans for the state celebration planned for 2020. Jan recommends that afterwards we present the Historical Society plan with the town to see if and how they might be interested to support the organization with the event. Jan is looking for volunteers to support the events on 29th and April 3rd.

Old Business – an update on Carol Zamarchi. Zip did attend this evening. Carol is not driving and is not doing to well and is in need of rest.

Toni Searles completed the Treasure's Independent Audit and confirmed after reviewing the treasurer reports against the bank statements and confirms that everything is in order. The report was submitted with the treasurer records.

The flag presentation for Jules Wyre was made a few weeks back. There were five (5) members in attendance. It was a very lovely event. Jules has difficulty seeing, but was able to speak well. He was thrilled with the flag and he could see the details of his design on the flag which made it him very happy. Keith shared that he is a very interesting man and that his granddaughter may be writing a book on his life. He had a very interested experience while living in the Netherlands very close to the German border during WWII.

Pam presented the plaque that has been designed for the memorial to Jeanette Paul. The plaque will hang in the school house. On the plaque the inscription stated the following: "Jeannette Paul 1923-2018" and followed with "dedicated to preserving Eliot's history and educating the children of Eliot about 1 room schoolhouses."

Ruth confirmed she is meeting with the library regarding the display case on Wednesday.

Carolyn asked if anyone had seen the lengthy article in Sentinel in prep for the meeting tonight. It was confirmed that the program was mentioned in the paper in two places but failed to note that the Eliot Historical Society was the host. Carolyn noted that we will be charged for submitting lengthier articles.

Jan Cerabona also noted that she had reached out to Michael Ward who had presented at the earlier meeting and had requested a replacement book as hers was following apart. Michael followed up immediately and made sure who book was replaced and also gifted a 2nd book.

Paul confirmed that he looked at the exhibition space at the post office and confirmed that he will need to drill out the locks as there is no way to get into it otherwise. He discussed with the Post Master so she would know what he was doing.

New Business: Paul confirmed that the April meeting has been rescheduled from 1st Monday to 2nd Monday – due to the Eliot Citizen's Option Meeting which is scheduled for the 1st Monday.

Debbie Scribner confirmed that Wendy from Town Hall had another request for another Flag. She will follow up to see if there is enough interest, they could place another order for more flags.

A big Thank-you to Jack & Polly McDonough for tonight's refreshments.

Program – Carolyn Bogh introduced the speaker of the evening: Russ Staples, resident of Tamworth, NH and author, recounted his historic Trek from Kathmandu to the Basecamp of Mt. Everest. In 1967, the author was who was 22 years old at the time was living in southern India and worked for the Peace Corp. Russ was one the earliest Americans to set foot at the 17,800 ft basecamp. Russ's memoirs are based on his journal he kept during the trek and includes incredible, never before published photos of Everest and Nepal. After his presentation, Russ made available a number of items her brought back from his Trek and also signed copies of his books.

The presentation finished at 8:15pm and attendees were invited to have a look at items that Russ presented from his Trek and enjoy refreshments.