

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Minutes of the Meeting – December 9, 2019

Paul Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:13pm. Paul welcomed all to the meeting and kicked-off the meeting announcing tonight's fudge raffle. All are invited to purchase a raffle ticket. Doris Grover made 3 gifts of fudge for Christmas so there will be 3 winners. Please put your name in the basket and during the refreshments, winners' names will be drawn. Paul also shared that every year the EHS Ladies plan a luncheon scheduled for Wed., Dec. 11, all are welcomed to join, a list will be circulated for all to sign up. It was confirmed that the program this evening will be the annual show and tell, where all are invited to share something old with the group; this will be followed by refreshments and the business portion of the meeting. Also the annual refreshment sign-up is out and all are asked to sign-up for a week.

Officers Report

Secretary Report: Tracey Graffam read the minutes of the Nov meeting which were accepted and approved with no corrections.

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

Committee Updates

Correspondence: Nothing to report

Membership: Sylvia confirmed that a new member joined on voting day. We also welcomed a new visitor joining us tonight.

Programs: Paul confirmed that the program director role will be filled by Roseanne and Jan. A big thank you to them both. The January program is titled "High over Maine" and is a view of Maine from above. The first four months of programs have been captured in the brochure for the Maine Bicentennial. Extra brochures are available at the front of the rooms. Roseanne and Jan will be the program director.

Collections: Julie confirmed that new additions were left including some new books and a number of other items which will need to be gone through. On display tonight include a number of items including items from David Raitt which include the framed puzzles, and some children's clothing including a bathing suit from 1920s.

Building: Nothing to report

PR/Publicity: Nothing to report

Fund Raising: Julie reported on behalf of Margie that the baked sale at the bazaar was a success which resulted in raising \$163 from baked goods. In addition the raffle tickets sold resulted in raising \$214 for a total of \$377. The Raffle winners were announced and included

the following: Stacey Gagne won the antique quilt, Eleanor Hanigan won the cookie jar and xxx won the tickets to the Seacoast Repertory Theater.

Education: Jan confirmed that the grant was received from Kennebunk Savings Bank with the proceeds to be used to frame and mount the restored mural of the famous Eliot Nightingale ship. The plan is to have this framed and mounted for the reveal in time for the Maine Bicentennial event by March 15th with the unveiling planned for March 16th. Jan is continue to work on the school display. With the Legion dissolving, Roseanne and Jan were invited to visit and review items for the Historic Society. There is an original letter of sale of the building which was once a fire department. They are planning to build this into the January program on the history of the Fire Department. In February the program will be about Oney Judge (who was a slave of George Washington and who escaped and come to Portsmouth), in March the program will be on the history of the Fogg Library and the William Fogg House. April, the program will cover the Governor's Hill with the 3rd graders before they go to the statehouse. Jan shared a recap of the celebration of Dot Manson's 103 birthday celebration. Jan shared with the students about Dot and her birthday – the kids then created birthday cards for her which Jan gave her. Dot really enjoyed them and read through all the cards from the kids.

Grants: Per noted the Grant from Kennebunk Savings Bank has been received.

2019 Nomination Committee: No updates.

Old Business:

In follow up on Maine's Bicentennial, there will also be a celebration and community dinner at the church and the committee is looking to have a celebration at the school.

Paul followed up on the receipt of the check for \$2500 from the Town Budget Committee for 2020. He also confirmed that he has submitted on behalf of the EHS a request for the following year of \$7600 which includes - \$5000 for software for the management of the town's cemetery.

New Business

All are reminded about the signup sheet for refreshments for the coming year. Paul confirmed that as part of our annual meeting, we need to vote in the Officers for the Eliot Historical Society for 2020 – the positions of the board includes: President – held by Paul Johnson, Vice President held by Denny Lentz, Secretary held by Tracey Graffam-Dickson, Treasurer held by Pam Ashley and Board of Director's which is made up of Kathy Runey and Bob Fisher and one open position – which Tracey Graffam-Dickson our Secretary has put her name forward for. All were asked if there is any known conflict with one person holding both the Secretary position and a Board position. It was agreed there were no conflicts and confirmed that Tracey could be considered for the position. A motion was made to vote for all roles to be filled as nominated. Motion was 2nd and all voted to approve. No votes against.

Paul also confirmed that a new Nominating committee is needed for next year. The roll requires much behind the scenes work to ensure there are candidates in place for the annual meeting voting. Sylvia agreed to stay in her role on the committee and Pam Ashley agreed to volunteer as well. Julie agreed to support as well. Thank you to all of you.

Lastly a big thank you for Sylvia and Cindy Lenz who hosted a lovely meeting with decorations and refreshments. Thanks to Julie for assisting in Cindy's absent.

It was asked how Helen Sullivan is doing. Jan confirmed she is doing well.

Program

Each person attending the program is asked to share something they brought in. The presentations included the following: a 150 years Eliot Town Commemorative plate, a small Wiener Car Whistle, a number of primitive oil paintings, an old book from WWII, old pictures & sales receipt from Ireland's store among others from the EHS archives. Jan shared about books she has collected for the HS historical society display – brought a book for adults from Dr. Seuss. Kathryn Shubert shared a find from her property along the river. Debbie Scribner pointed out that the device looked like a branding iron to identify lobster cans and buoys. Kathryn is going to do some more research to see if it's possible to determine who it belonged to based on the number on the iron. Kathryn also offered to donate the tool to the EHS collection. Ernie shared some phones from (non-dial phone)1904 &(dial phone)1930 from his collection of over 50 various phones the phones required dry cells (boxes) that had a battery. Also shared was a picture of "Uncle Frank Fernald" whose current residence belongs to Paul & Julie Johnson. Frank was a ship constructor from New York who summered in Eliot, Maine. All were invited to review the items that were then put on display. The group broke for refreshments.

-Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Graffam-Dickson

12/9/19