

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Minutes of the Meeting – Oct 4, 2021, The Basin

Paul kicked off the evening's meeting at 5:35pm with a short presentation of pictures of the work that we completed today and early last year at the Tetherly family cemetery, one of the town's private cemeteries located off the King's Highway near Spring Street. Seven volunteers helped clear brush. Also earlier today, a group met and help dig out and erect sunken stones at another family cemetery – Barry Bernard, is a family member with relatives buried there. Wendy Watts had come to the town to request assistance in fixing 12 headstones.

Paul also shared that Dick Bowe passed away on the 28th, he was 82 years old. Paul led the meeting with a moment of silence in Dick's honor.

Paul confirmed that this evening's program would be a presentation on the Time Capsule that will be buried on the 15th of October here in Eliot. Following the presentation, the business meeting will take place.

The evening's program was commenced. A video was presented which was made at the town hall, where Jan Cerabona, Rosanne Adams and Lydia Goodwin provided an overview and background on the items collected that would be enclosed in Eliot's time capsule. The burial of the time capsule will culminate in the closing of Maine's bicentennial events and activities that have been held over the past two years. The video was recorded on Sept. 23 and can be watched on the Eliot townhall streaming site. https://townhallstreams.com/towns/elliott_maine.

Following the program presentation, the business meeting was held and kicked off by Paul at 6:10pm.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report dated September 13, 2021, was presented. The report was approved with one correction – noting the monthly maintenance cost of \$20 per month (not per year) for the Cemetery software. No other changes were noted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was presented which reflected all financial transactions for the period of 9/1/21 thru 9/30/21. The report was approved without changes.

Old Business:

Eliot Festival Days Committee: Julie shared a recap of the Eliot Festival Day event that was held on Saturday, Sept. 25th. This year's location was a nice location amongst many other organizations and vendors. The event was a success in sharing information on the Historical Society and helped in raising \$329 which included sales of Books, tickets to the Repertory Theater in Portsmouth and in donations. Unfortunately, no flag sales were made – as we need a commitment of 50 people to commit before we purchase more flags. The question was posed as to whether we could sell more flags on voting day. Paul confirmed that he would inquire into this.

Fundraising: It was confirmed that we are still awaiting on the amount of the donation from Fabulous Finds. Paul confirmed that when we hear from them, we will share this information and will hope to get a picture at Fabulous Finds when the donation amount is confirmed to be given.

Correspondence: N/A

Membership: N/A

Building Committee: N/A

New Business:

Helen Sullivan is having eye surgery. She confirmed that she sent a card on behalf of EHS to the family of Dick Bowe.

Paul brought forward the idea of the establishing a Cemetery Committee and asked if anyone would be interested to join. He shared that the 1st task would be a field trip to Brooks Cemetery and to help document the names of those buried there and to help ensure an accurate representation of the information provided. The 2nd task would be to enter the information into the database.

Rosanne confirmed that we have a new member who is also on the board of the cemetery so we can confirm data with him as well.

Tom O’Leary, who is a visitor for the evening’s program, introduced himself. He recently moved to Eliot from Massachusetts. He put himself forward as a volunteer and shared his background and interest in setting up the deed registry across multiple towns within the county of Essex. The website developed is called salemdeeds.com which also includes the Native American Deeds Collection and other important information. The website is set up as a database / GIS (geographic information system) and is a directory for managing public records of 34 towns in the county of Essex and contains over 700,000 data items.

Paul confirmed that our next meeting would be held on Monday, Nov. 1st. He asked if all would prefer to try to meet indoors at the Church if available – or meet again at the Basin. Those in attendance, felt that they prefer to meet at the Basin for this next meeting. All agreed at that an earlier time would be ideal and agreed to meet at 4pm.

Attendees of the meeting was at 13.

-Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Graffam-Dickson

Nov. 1st , 2021