

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Minutes of the Meeting – June 6, 2022, via ZOOM

Paul kicked off the evening's meeting at 7:00pm welcoming attendees to our monthly meeting.

The meeting started with the evenings program, with an extensive video presentation recorded by Julie and Paul which provides an overview of the EHS Collection, how the information is maintained, recorded and stored to ensure their preservation over time. The program was very well received by all. Tracey confirmed that a video of the presentation will be made available on our website.

**Secretary's Report (Tracey Graffam-Dickson)**

Tracey read the secretary's report dated 5/2/22. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

**Treasurer's Report (Pam Ashley)**

Pam read the treasurer's report for the period of 5/1 thru 5/31/22. The Treasurer's report was approved with no corrections.

**Membership (Sylvia Moynahan):** It was confirmed that a donation on behalf of Phyllis Swan. \$10.

**Programs (Rosanne Fisher and Jan Cerabona):** No Program next month or following month

**Collections:** Received books from Esther Church Hill, received envelopes that were produced in 1893-1993 that were developed for Eliot Festival Days. Moses Gerrish Farmers – 100 Years Anniversary. Issued from Eliot Post Office.

**Building (Paul Johnson):** Sheet rock, mudding completed, paint the portion of the ceiling. Up and running for the summer. Jan confirmed how good it looks.

**Fundraising (Margie Brown):** Marge confirmed that we have been contacted by Eliot Festival Days. Paul confirmed that the cost is \$40 for all attendees. Kathy was at the meeting last week, Town confirmed that it will be free for town committee / organization members. We do need to submit the application. Great exposure and lot of inquiries. We also have notecards for sale.

**Education (Jan Cerabona):** Our big day is here. 3 classes are attending tomorrow, Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Classes will be there for 45-minute sessions. How to use the sticks. Old book on Miss Mary Mack – librarian will introduce to the kids. 1 Session on Tuesday, 2 Sessions on Wednesday. School looks really great with the desks. The open houses – there have been 2. Memorial Day and this past Saturday. Donations received \$30 and another \$20. Grant for display in Middle School and the Sliders. Jan will get receipts to Paul. Displays are being well received. Goal is to get a representative from each one of the Schools and bring them together to start discussing how to represent history across all the communities. Small steps.

**Cemetery Committee (Paul Johnson):** Paul confirmed that a new private cemetery has been found and is number #171, it's located at the corner of Bolt Hill / Main Street. Paul, Rosanne, Jan met with Brian Spinney. Paul confirmed he has added this new information into the website. Jan shared that she and Rosanne visited the cemetery and found a number of gravestones. If anyone wants to help work on the new cemeteries, let us know. Tom asked if there is a crosswalk between the website and the Town Deeds map/website. Paul confirmed that you can view the website / map and they are linked. For each identified private cemetery, there is a bullseye identifying its location and a link at the town site will provide a link to the database. Rosanne confirmed that if anyone wants to visit these cemeteries that request to the landowner is expected. Tom asked if the town permits the establishment of private cemeteries today. Eric confirmed, yes, that this is possible and that 5 years ago he established a private cemetery.

Paul shared that on July 23, the EHS will be hosting the annual spring MOCA meeting at the Congregational Church. As hosts, we will be offering a premade lunch and therefore we are looking for volunteers to assist.

We are also asking for volunteers to provide fresh baked goods. We are planning for approximately 50-60 attendees. We see this as a chance to show off the town and the work of the Eliot Historical Society. As part of the meeting of topics, Eric will be presenting his topic entitled, "400 Odd Years of Eliot Maine". As the 2<sup>nd</sup> speaker, Paul will present on the 171 private family cemeteries and the work that has been done, including the work provided at the Neall and Rodger's cemeteries. He will also share an overview of the Cemetery Database and link with the Town GIS maps. Following lunch, the group will walk to the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Rosanne will lead the group around to a few of the cemetery locations of various gravesites and provide some history on each of the individuals. Jan will host the group to the # 8 Schoolhouse. Paul also shared that all attendees are required to register for this event which costs \$5 / pp to register. Lunch is \$8/pp. EHS will be splitting the registration costs and the costs for lunch will be given to EHS. Kathy has agreed to be the lunch coordinator. Paul will confirm with the members once the registration comes out.

**Collections (Julie Johnson):** Nothing to report

**Correspondence (Helen Sullivan):** Nothing to report

**PR/Publicity (Rosanne Fisher and Jan Cerabona):** Nothing to report

**Grants (Helen Goransson):** Nothing to report

**Cemetery Committee (Paul Johnson):** Nothing to report

#### **Old Business:**

**#8 School House:** The School house is scheduled to be open 10-2pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from June thru August. Contact Jan Cerabona if any members would like to attend outside of these dates / times. Jan shared that they are looking to get HS students to volunteer and earn their, community service credits. With reference to the new sliders installed, Paul shared that in the past, the students had to sit on the floor, as the desks were not stable, now with the new sliders, the students can sit safely in them. This will change the experience for the students significantly.

**Annual Financial Audit:** The Financial Audit was completed by Julie Johnson. As read by Paul, the report confirmed that a review of the accounts for the period of 1/1/21 thru 12/31/21 was conducted and no discrepancies were found. The report has been received, signed and dated.

#### **New Business:**

Kathy confirmed that the town committee has announced that all town groups will be able to participate at the Eliot Festival Days at no cost.

Paul also confirmed that there would be no meeting in July and that the annual EHS Picnic will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month of August, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Attendees of the meeting were 19

-Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Graffam-Dickson

Date: September 12, 2022