

NEWTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of August 11, 2014
Merrimac Savings Bank

Members present:	Bill Landry	Mary Riordan	Karen O'Malley	Barb DiBartolomeo
	Kathy Meserve	Ron Saunders	Cheryl Saunders	

Bill Landry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Secretary's Report – Mary Riordan

Karen O'Malley made a motion to accept the minutes of July 14, 2014. Kathy Meserve seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yeas, 2 abstentions.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Landry

The July 31, 2014 account balances were:

The Checking income was from presentation donations. Expenses were for the electric bill, presentation fee and donation to the Newton Food Pantry. The Money Market income was from interest. Expenses were for presentation fee. Barb DiBartolomeo made a motion to accept the July 31, 2014 Treasurers' Reports. Karen O'Malley seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Marshall House Barn repair update: Bill Landry reported he received an estimate from Rob Hayes of \$2,500 for material and labor with help from the Historical Society members. Bill will submit the estimate to the Newton Board of Selectman.

Home Day: Bill Landry will inform Matt Burrell that we decided not to open the museums on Home Day.

New Business:

Mike Bowers Interview re: trains? : Kathy Meserve reported Roger Atkins from Merrimac would be happy to help John Meserve with the interview. John is still working on setting up the interview with Mike. Ron Saunders noted the many years ago Mike had issues with the Society about getting copies of the pictures he had donated. Karen O'Malley said John should tell Mike we would be delighted to make copies of any of his donated pictures.

Request from Angela McVey to assist Girl Scouts: Bill Landry received an email from Angela asking if there is any project the Girl Scouts could help us with for their Silver Award. Angela will attend our September meeting to explain what they are looking for.

Fall Festival: Kathy Meserve reported John has 100 letters ready to go out to corporate sponsors. He will send them out at the beginning of September. He asked members to send him the names and addresses of any other business they know of. He has contacted the people who make the posters and tickets.

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Primary School front stairs: Karen O'Malley asked about repairing the front stairs. Cheryl and Ron Saunders will check with Mike Chaisson to see if the Boy Scouts have an Eagle project that could do the repair.

Reports of Curators & Committee Chairpersons:

Curators: Ron Saunders reported he went through most the boxes Karen O'Malley had given him and returned the items to be kept. He asked Bill Landry for the status of the electricity run to the barn at the Marshall House. Bill replied we will wait until the barn is repaired to run the electricity.

Historian: No report. Bill Landry heard from Courtney. She is currently working on Monday night but hopes to attend meetings in the future.

Archivist: Karen O'Malley reported she gave the curators more boxes to go through. There are only 3 boxes left on the non-accessioned shelves.

Programs: No Report. Bill reviewed the presentations already scheduled for 2015.

Web Site Status: Mary Riordan reported she added the time and place of the upcoming events on the main page. The new web site is operational and Mary Winglass has changed the link on the Town site. She noted that it takes a while for a new site to appear in Search engine results. She will meet with Mary Winglass to change some of the old Town pages that appear in Search engine results. Bill Landry asked her to report monthly on usage statistics of the new site. Mary gave Bill the Illinois Tool Works (ITW) Volunteer Hours form for the hours she spent creating the web site. Bill will complete the form and submit it to ITW.

Correspondence: Bill Landry received a Thank You card from Tina O'Rourke for the donation to the Newton Food Pantry.

Other:

Middle School Project Update: Guests -- Nicole Woulfe and Michelle Hannon

Karen O'Malley and Bill Landry showed them the items we could display at the presentation. Bill Landry showed the PowerPoint presentation. Mary Riordan asked if we could get information on the size of the Middle School gym to compare to the ice house size. She will try to take a picture of the Boston Ice Company area from Country Pond Rd. She also noted we have an ice box we could add to the presentation. Nicole and Michelle commented on the quality and quantity of the presentation. Bill offered to open the Primary School house to them if they want to look at items again. Bill will send them the presentation so they can decide what they can use. They will get back to us with questions/suggestions after the school year starts.

Next Meeting: Monday September 8, 2014, 7:00 PM at the Merrimac Savings Bank.

Bill Landry adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Riordan, Secretary