

NEWTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of October 20, 2014
Newton Town Hall

Members present:	Bill Landry	Mary Riordan	Karen O'Malley	Ron Saunders
	Kathy Meserve	Diane Morin	Marilyn Landry	Cheryl Saunders
	Sally Woodman			

Bill Landry called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Secretary's Report – Mary Riordan

Diane Morin made a motion to accept the minutes of September 8, 2014. Marilyn Landry seconded the motion. The motion passed 6 yeas, 3 abstentions.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Landry

The Checking income was from Fall Festival Sponsors, presentation donations and NHC Grant. Expenses were for the electric bill, Fall Festival, presentation, supplies and donation to Newton Food Pantry. The Money Market income was from interest and Fall Festival Sponsors. Diane Morin made a motion to accept the September 30, 2014 Treasurers' Reports. Marilyn Landry seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Newton Girl Scouts: Bill Landry received a list of tasks from Angela McVey. Bill asked if anyone had any ideas. There were none at this time. Sally Woodman suggested they could help with the spring clean-up at the Primary School House.

Marshall House Barn repair Update: Bill Landry reported he met with Rob Hayes and Sam Zannini about the sill plate resting on the ground. Sam said we were all set, we don't need to put blocks under it. Rob has received \$1250 for materials. Bill and Rob will get the materials. Rob indicated we are looking at a November timeframe. Chief Streeter needs the area the carriages are stored in so we must do the repair this year.

Home Day (Carriage display): Bill Landry reported Charlie Melvin brought the Hayford Democrat carriage to Home Day on his flatbed truck.

Middle School Project Update: Bill Landry reported the slide show is complete. We are waiting to hear from Nicole and Michelle on the presentation date. They thought it would be in November.

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Fall Festival Update (Kathy M): Kathy Meserve reported the posters are up, the notice has been in the newspaper and the tickets are available at the Library, Town Hall and Merrimac Bank. The wine and soda have been purchased. Sponsors have sent in approximately \$2200. Bill noted that ticket sales are slow this year. Diane Morin will get 2 tables. Marilyn Landry will bring small meatballs and cocktail wieners in crockpots. Cheryl Saunders will bring a cheese and cracker platter, deviled eggs and a divided crockpot for the meatballs and wieners. Kathy Meserve will bring mini pretzels, nuts, chips & dip, small plates and toothpicks. We have 13-14 items for door prizes. Karen O'Malley, Marilyn Landry, Bill Landry, Kathy Meserve and Sally Woodman will meet at the Bank at 1PM to setup. Karen O'Malley will bring her Tartan Jacket. There will be a slide show of last year and a "Now and Then" slide show. Bill Landry has the made the wine posters and will make the sponsor list.

Mike Bowers Interview re: trains (John M): No report

Stage Curtain grant: Bill Landry received an email from Cassie at New Hampshire Council of the Arts. The Executive Board met to complete the forms. We should receive the check in 4-8 weeks. Bill will be working on the timing of payments with Chris Hadsell. Bill, Ron Saunders and his two sons and Roger Hamel will take the curtains down on Nov. 14th, roll them up and put them on tables. Karen O'Malley has arranged for the tables. Jake Sweetsir will paint the archway to match the chair rail. The work will take 7-10 days to complete. The Chain Bridge curtain will be stationary behind the Advertising curtain. The Advertising curtain will have a mechanism to roll it up to show the other curtain. We may need staging to put them back up.

Christmas Tree Lighting Dec. 7: Bill Landry will contact Sue Mears about the decoration making. Cheryl Saunders will check with Mike Pivero about getting hot chocolate & cookies. Bill Landry will talk to Mike Pivero about using his boom to put on the lights and straighten the star. Santa and his elf are all set. The event will start at 5:30PM and the tree will be lit at 6:00PM. Ron Saunders will bring a heater.

New Business:

Fire Extinguisher Service: Bill Landry reported Keene Fire Service inspected the fire extinguisher at the Primary School Museum.

Cub Scout visit to Primary School Museum: Bill Landry reported Cub Scout Troop 91 will visit the Primary School Museum on Wednesday 10/22. Bill, Karen O'Malley and Mary Riordan will be on hand. We will show them the Train Wreck and Now and Then sections of the Middle School Slide Show.

Reports of Curators & Committee Chairpersons:

Curators: Ron Saunders will put plywood on the stairs at the school house as a temporary fix. He will also fix the railing. He has not yet contacted the Mike Chaisson of the Boy Scouts about whether there is an Eagle Project that could do a complete restoration of the stairs & porch.

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Historian: No report

Archivist: Karen O'Malley reported she and Barb DiBartolomeo have accessioned 130 items. There are just a few items left to be done. She gave Ron and Cheryl Saunders a box of legal documents for them to determine what we want to keep. Ron stated he didn't think we should keep deeds and tax records as they can be found in the County and/or Town records. Karen has taken items out of the Primary School for the winter. Mary Riordan has photo albums and pictures of the 250th celebration to weed out the duplicates.

Programs: Sally Woodman reported Bill Landry sent her information on Don Watson "All songs about New Hampshire". Marilyn Landry suggested getting Roxie back for a presentation next year. Sally will get more information on Don Watson.

Web Site Status: Mary Riordan reported we had 130 visitors to our site in September. They viewed an average of 4 pages per visit.

Correspondence:

Bev Donovan – Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce: Bill Landry received a request for information about the curtains in the Town Hall. Bill sent her write-ups and pictures of the curtains. She put them on the Chamber of Commerce web site.

Peter Hatch – Research Request: Bill sent Peter the information he had on Marion Whittier Hatch and other descendants.

Other: None

Next Meeting: Monday November 10, 2014, 7:00 PM at the Merrimac Savings Bank.

Bill Landry adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Riordan, Secretary