

# Newton Historical Society

Minutes of December 14, 2015  
Sargent Woods Community Center

Members present:	Bill Landry	Mary Riordan	Karen O'Malley	Ron Saunders
	Sally Woodman	Diane Morin	Marilyn Landry	Barb DiBartolomeo
	Mike Hughes	Roger Hamel	Jane Hamel	Cheryl Saunders
	John Meserve	Kathy Meserve		

Bill Landry called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

## **Secretary's Report – Mary Riordan**

Diane Morin made a motion to accept the minutes of November 9, 2015. Cheryl Saunders seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

## **Treasurer's Report – Bill Landry**

The Checking income was from dues and interest. Expenses were for the electric bill and PO Box rental. The Money Market income was from interest and Fall Festival sponsors. Expenses were for Schoolhouse insurance and Schoolhouse sign. Marilyn Landry made a motion to accept the November 30, 2015 Treasurers' Reports. Cheryl Saunders seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

## **Old Business:**

**Schoolhouse museum sign:** Bill Landry reported the sign has been put in place. Jane Hamel commented on how well the style of the sign fits the building.

**New laptop status:** Diane Morin reported the laptop is in transit. Diane explained we customized the laptop to get the Operating System and RAM that we need for the Adlib accessioning software and MS PowerPoint presentations.

**Christmas tree lighting:** Bill Landry reported the tree has been lit and looks great.

## **New Business:**

**Annual Food Pantry Donation:** Barbara DiBartolomeo made a motion to donate 10 \$10 Market Basket Gift Certificates to the Newton Food Pantry. Kathy Meserve seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. There was discussion on considering a donation to the Library next year.

**Annual Highlight report for the Newton Town Report:** Bill Landry will create the write-up of our 2015 activities for the Town Report.

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**Donation of 1940 Pump Organ (Salach Family):** Bill Landry reported he was contacted by Leslie & Richard Salach of Haverhill about a Pump Organ that was owned by Margaret and Helen Freeman of Newton. This organ is very similar to the one we have in the Marshall House. There was discussion on whether we should accept the organ. The consensus was we did not need two Pump Organs. Bill Landry will send them an email informing them of our decision not to accept their Pump Organ.

**Donation of photos/artifacts & visit to PS Museum (Barbara Swasey-Keir):** Bill Landry received an email from Barbara Swasey-Keir who is the granddaughter of Henry L Burbeck and great-granddaughter of Amos J. Burbeck of Newton. She asked about photos from Mike Bower he called the "Burbeck Collection". She also has items from Henry Carterville. Bill replied that we do not have anything referring to the Burbeck Collection. Bill will contact Barbara to review the negatives and arrange a visit. Jane Hamel offered her light box to Bill to view the negatives.

**Donation of photos (Estabrook Family):** Bill Landry received photos from Patricia & Ralph Estabrook. Roger Hamel and Bill will research the names on the photos.

**Election of Officers:** The slate of officers nominated for 2016:

President – Bill Landry, Vice President – Kathy Meserve, Secretary – Mary Riordan, Treasurer – Bill Landry. Diane Morin made a motion authorizing the Secretary to cast one vote for the slate of officers. John Meserve seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. Secretary Mary Riordan cast one vote in favor of the slate of officers.

## **Reports of Curators & Committee Chairpersons:**

**Curators:** Cheryl Saunders received a paint stirrer from Don Richards that has printing on it from the Newton Junction Hardware Store that was next to the Grange. Cheryl will write up the Deed of Gift form for Karen. Ron Saunders reported he finished reviewing items Karen O'Malley had given him and returned to her the items to be kept. Ron showed research books on the Poore and Malbon Families. Bill Landry will check the cemetery records for these people. Ron reported the Barn electrical project will continue in the spring. Ron will give Bill a stock list of items needed to complete the project.

**Historian:** Roger Hamel shared information he found on Ross Lyon. Ross was married to Maude Edney on 12/25/1890 in Newton. At one time Ross was a carriage painter and later was a painter in the automotive industry. He had 3 daughters. He purchased the property on the corner of Highland and Chase in April 1914. He owned the property until June 1937 when it was taken by the town for taxes. He lived with his grandson Amos Ross Lyon in Newton until his death in 1956. He is buried in the Highland Cemetery. Roger reported he has not found any connection between Grebenstein and Woodsom. Roger will give the information to Karen.

**Archivist:** No report.

**Programs:** We have two programs scheduled for 2016.

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**Web Site Status:** Mary Riordan reported visitors to our site was down in November. She removed old files to free up space. Mary will contact Bob Dezmelyk to have the MX records changed. She and Bill will speak to Bob after the first of the year about transferring the registration of our domain name to the Society.

**Correspondence:** Bill Landry received an email from Mary Marshall containing documents of interviews Mary had done with Myrtle Rogers about the Marshall House Barn and the Hayford Carriage.

**Other:** None

**Next Meeting:** Monday April 11, 2016, 7:00 PM at the Sargent Woods Community Center.

Bill Landry adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Riordan, Secretary