

# Newton Historical Society

Minutes of September 11, 2017  
Sargent Woods Community Center

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

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

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

Barb DiBartolomeo made a motion to accept the minutes of July 10, 2017. Kathy Meserve seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

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

The report covered July and August.

The Checking income was from NHHC Isle of Shoals grant. Expenses were for the July and August electric bills. The Money Market income was from interest. Sally Woodman made a motion to accept the August 31, 2017 Treasurers' Reports. Karen O'Malley seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

## **Old Business:**

**Open museums for Old Home Day Sat. Oct. 7 (Noon to 2:00 PM):** Mike Hughes, Mary Riordan and Dave Simpson volunteered to be at the Primary Schoolhouse. Barb DiBartolomeo and Kathy Meserve volunteered to be at the Marshall House. Bill Landry sent a request to the Board of Selectmen to have the Marshall House cleaned. Ron Saunders volunteered to clean the Primary Schoolhouse. Bill Landry will print the slide shows and put them in binders for display. Karen O'Malley said there are plastic sleeves and binders in the Schoolhouse he can use. She will let Bill know how many we have and if we need more, what to buy. Diane Morin suggested Bill have them printed at Staples.

**Newton Greenhouse slide show:** Karen O'Malley reported we will meet with Tom and Nora McElroy on Weds. Sept. 20 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall to review the slide show.

**Fall Festival Update:** Kathy Meserve reported the date this year is Sat. Oct 14<sup>th</sup>. She gave Bill Landry and Diane Morin posters to hang up in October. She will ask John when the tickets will be ready. Bill will handle the publicity. John Meserve sent out about 100 fund raising letters to businesses. Kathy ordered the wine glasses. She spoke to the McElroy's about 4 mums for door prizes. Bill will get gift cards from local restaurants. We will be setting up at the bank on Sat. Oct 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30PM. Kathy asked for display suggestions. Bill noted the slide show binders will be available to display. The food offerings will be the same as last year. She learned that Jewel Town South Hampton Red wine is not available this year and asked for suggestions to replace it.

## **New Business:**

**Unitil electric bill has been set up for "Auto-Pay":** Bill Landry reported he has set up the electric bill for Auto-Pay to simplify the task and reduce costs.

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**Photos submitted for 2018 HSEM Calendar:** Bill Landry reported he submitted 4 photos to the NH Department of Safety Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the 2018 Emergency Public Information Calendar for Neighbors of Seabrook Station in NH. He submitted the Boston Ice House, the Traveler's Inn, the Hayford Carriage factory, and the Hayford home.

**New displays for Home Day & Fall Festival:** The slide show binders were discussed under Old Business, Open museums for Old Home Day from noon to 2:00 PM.

**P. Wonson rocker donation (Formerly owned by Newton Oldest resident?):** Bill Landry reported he received a rocker from Amanda McGregor. The rocker had belonged to Pat Wonson, a long time Newton resident and Society member. Amanda said, according to Pat, it was once owned by Newton's oldest resident, Betsy Cheney who was 110 years old. Bill could not find her in the town cemetery records. Karen O'Malley recalled the Bertha Cheney lived on Gould Hill Rd and was about that age when she passed away. Bill put the rocker in the Marshall House living room and gave Karen O'Malley the Deed of Gifts and accession forms.

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

**Curators:** Ron and Cheryl Saunders will clean the Primary Schoolhouse before Old Home Day.

**Historian:** Roger Hamel received a request from Mr. Marsiello for historical information on 2 Old Boston Rd. He found some information in the Registry of Deeds and sent him it. Ann Fury, a descendant of Ralph Marden, may come for a visit and asked to see what we had.

**Archivist:** Karen O'Malley and Barbara DiBartolomeo will check the Schoolhouse on Thursday and accession the rocker.

**Programs: 2018 Programs:** Sally Woodman reported she has booked NHHC presentation "New England Lighthouses and the people who kept them" for April 25, 2018 7:00PM at the Town Hall. There was discussion about the second presentation options and whether to give preference to presenters willing to be recorded and televised on the local channel. Sally will check on the "Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn" for July. If that is not available, she'll try for "Washington's Spies" in September. Bill will give Sally a check for \$100 for the 2 NHHC presentations.

**Review Sept. 6 Isle of Shoals presentation:** Sally Woodman reported approximately 21 people attended. Most of the reviews were good. Bill noted the NHHC review sheet was much longer than previous ones and that some of the questions were not relevant to us. We received \$21 in donations so we will donate \$42 to the Newton Food Pantry.

**Web Site Status:** Mary Riordan reported visitors to our site increased by 25 in August.

**Correspondence:** None

**Other:** Dave Simpson asked if all meetings were at 6:30. Karen O'Malley noted the sign at the Primary School House says 7:00 PM. Dave will bring the Christmas lights to the Schoolhouse on Old Home Day.

**Next Meeting:** Monday October 9, 2017, 6:30 PM at the Sargent Woods Community Center.

Bill Landry adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Riordan, Secretary