

Newton Historical Society

Minutes of December 9, 2019
Sargent Woods Community Center

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

Bill Landry called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Secretary's Report – Mary Riordan

Diane Morin made a motion to accept the minutes of October 14, 2019. John Meserve seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Landry

The October & November 2019 financial activities were:

The Checking income was from Fall Festival sponsors & tickets and wine sale. Expenses were for the electric bill and PO Box rental. The Money Market income was from interest and Fall Festival sponsors & tickets. Expenses were for Fall Festival gift cards & wine and Annual Schoolhouse Insurance. John Meserve made a motion to accept the October & November 2019 Treasurers' Reports. Marilyn Landry seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

2019 Fall Festival Review: Kathy Meserve reported it was a very nice time. She thanked everyone who helped. The food was great. This year ranked 8 out of 13 in net income. Revenue was \$2,885, expenses were \$286.76, net income was \$2,598.30. There were about 49 people attending this year. Kathy reviewed the net income over the 13 years we've held this event.

Review 2020 meeting schedule: Bill Landry reviewed. Our meetings will be in April, June September and December.

New Business:

Continuation of Fall Festival: John Meserve spoke on this subject that was discussed last meeting. He suggested we should continue with the event as it will be our only presence in the community since we are not having any presentations or museum open houses in 2020. After a short discussion, the consensus was to continue this event.

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December Election of Officers:

The nominees for officers for 2020 are Bill Landry – President, Kathy Meserve -- Vice President, Diane Morin – Secretary, Bill Landry – Treasurer.

Bill Landry explained the duties of Treasurer in response to Cheryl Saunders question. John Meserve made a motion authorizing the Secretary to cast one vote for the slate of officers. Marilyn Landry seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. Secretary Mary Riordan cast one vote in favor of the slate of officers.

Other: None

Reports of Curators & Committee Chairpersons:

Curators:

Christmas Tree lights – Ron Saunders reported he purchased new lights for the tree. He described the difficulty he and John Meserve had putting them up by hand due to the size of the tree. He will contact a friend of his with a bucket truck to help getting the lights off and on next year. It was agreed that decorating the tree, which is now as tall as the museum building, could become a safely problem for our members.

Bill Landry suggested decorating the front of the building instead of the tree. Dave Simpson suggested also getting a small tree to put on the museum porch and decorate it.

Ron will remove all the lights from the tree whereas we will be decorating the porch area and a small tree on the porch next year.

Schoolhouse basement window – Dave Simpson built a replacement window. The window is currently blocked up. He will install the replacement in the next couple of weeks.

Schoolhouse roof -- Ron Saunders went into the attic to check it. He found it is bone dry up there. The north side is covered in moss, the south side has some cupping. He suggested we do not have to redo it at this time. Dave Simpson agreed with Ron's assessment.

Cobbler Shop windows – Bill Landry has boarded up the windows. He asked about getting used windows. Cheryl Saunders mentioned Kidder Wrecking may have some. We will look at them when the weather gets good in the spring. The society members will do the work. The materials will be paid for by the town.

Cheryl Saunders reported the clothing from the Schoolhouse has been cleaned. She will leave them in the Schoolhouse for Karen. She has two new items from Lou Swasey. She'll leave them with the Deed of Gift for Karen to accession.

Historian: Roger Hamel reported he received a request from the people at 7 Maple Ave for history on their house. Roger reviewed the many facts they had research and did not have any new information to give them.

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Archivist: Karen O'Malley had nothing to report.

Programs: Sally Woodman reported, as was decided last meeting, due to the lack of attendance by residents, we have no programs planned for 2020.

Web Site Status: Mary Riordan reported the Fall Festival pictures and Fritz Wetherbee's segments were posted on the web site. The couple of days after the posting had increased activity but the remainder of the month had average activity.

She reminded Bill she'll be giving him the ITW volunteer form to submit in December for their annual donation for the time their former employee Mary Riordan spends on Society business.

In January, Bill will give Mary his backup USB to copy to the external drive. This contains all the computer information of the society's activities over the past 13 years

Correspondence: None

Next Meeting: Monday April 13, 2020, 6:30 PM at the Sargent Woods Community Center.

Bill Landry adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

After the meeting the 15 members in attendance enjoyed food, beverages and a Yankee Swap at our annual Christmas party.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Riordan,

Secretary