

Newton Historical Society

Minutes of Sept. 9, 2024
Sargent Woods Community Center

ATTENDEES:	Karen O'Malley	David Simpson	Mary Riordan	Barb DiBartolomeo
John Meserve	Bill Landry	Roger Hamel	Marilyn Landry	Diane Morin
Kathy Meserve	Susan Peterson	Stan Duncan		

Dave Simpson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Secretary's Report – Dave Simpson

John Meserve made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 2023 meeting. Karen O'Malley seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Landry

Aug. 31, 2024 activity and account balances.

The Money Market income was from interest. Expenses were Unutil (\$18.38), K C Custom Sewing \$900.00. Diane Morin moved to accept the treasurer's report as written. Seconded by Barb DiBartolomeo, Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Current / Old Business:

- Hayford carriages repair is completed: Kathy Cappucci of KC Custom Sewing Co has repaired the single seat on the Concord carriage and the two seats on the Democrat carriage. The Concord carriage will be used in the Newton 275th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for Sept. 15, 2024. The final payment of \$900.00 for the carriage seat repair was made to K C Custom Sewing Co. The repaired cushions will be stored in a pest proof container, provided by Dave Simpson, at the Marshall House barn. The Hayford Concord carriage will be used in the Olde Home Day parade on the 15th.
- Dave Simpson reported that the barn at the Marshall House, which typically shows signs of animal infestation, appears to be under control thanks to the use of pet friendly sprays that he has used on several occasions.
- Susan Peterson will oversee a table, which will be provided by Dave Simpson, on Sat. night at Olde Home day. She will have copies of the new 275th anniversary booklets for sale for \$15.00, as well as two large booklets of photos from the Newton 250th anniversary.
- **New Business:**
- Discussed the upcoming Fall Festival fund raiser that will again be held at the North Shore Bank. John Meserve has the letters ready for mailing to our typical sponsors. Bill Landry will make up the tickets and advertising, and update the slide shows that are displayed each year.
- The festival will be held on Sat. Oct. 19, 2024 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

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- **New Business (Cont.):**
- Fall Festival Food, utensils, paper products etc. (I hope I got these right)
 - **Tables: (Need 6)**
 - Roger – 3
 - David – 1
 - Diane - 1
 - Mary - 1
 - **Food:**
 - Dave – 2 large pizzas – Plain & Pepperoni
 - Sally – Kielbasa & Brownies
 - Marilyn – Chex Mix, M & M, Crackers & Cheese platter
 - Mary – Silverware container, Dessert
 - Barbara – Dessert
 - Diane – Chocolate Chip cookies
 - Kathy – Paper plates, Napkins, Plastic Forks, Knives, Spoons, Table cloths (5 tables), Soda & Water, Order wine glasses, (Bill will pick up),
 - **Gifts:**
 - Bill - Will contact Doggett Jewelry, pick up 5 various \$20. Gift cards
 - Kathy – Will contact Newton Greenhouse for 4 Mums, contact Acio's for a gift card
 - Susan – Kindle reader

Advertising for the event will be limited due to the closing of the Carriage Towne News. Bill will put various notices out on the 5 Newton Facebook pages on the Internet.

Mary Riordan will provide the lap top which will show the five Fritz Wetherbee videos pertaining to Newton's history. Bill will provide 2 lap tops for his slide shows.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curators: (This position is open)

- Bill Landry received four large containers of written materials and a case of metal challises from Peter Verontau Trustee, of the now defunct First Congregational Church in Newton. The items will be reviewed by Dave, Karen and Bill. Per Mr. Verontau, any paper items that are not wanted, should be destroyed. The challises will be kept for display in the museum.

Historian: Roger Hamel.

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- Research was done on the history of the home of Society member Susan Peterson. Roger provided information dating back to 1880.

Historian (Cont.): Roger Hamel.

- Raye Ellen Douville requested information on the early resident of the Peaslee Family in Newton. Roger was able to provide some very limited information.

Archivist: Karen O'Malley

- Karen received a copy of a video of the 250th Newton anniversary celebration from the Estabrook family.

PROGRAMS: Diane Morin & Sally Woodman

- The possibility of sponsoring more programs in 2025 will be discussed at the April meeting in 2025.

WEB SITE:

- Mary Riordan stated there was a marked increase in unique visitors to the website. There were over 1,000 visits in May and 762 in August. Typically, there are about 400 visitors. The feeling was that one reason for the increase may have been the recent publication of plans for the 275th celebration as well as information publicized about the historic slide shows that are available on the Society's web site.
- The society web site was previously renewed until 2027.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Next Meeting:

- Monday, Dec. 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Sargent Woods Community Center.
- It was decided to hold our annual Christmas party at the end of the meeting, which will include a \$20.00 value Yankee Swap.

Dave Simpson adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Landry

Interim Secretary