

Minutes for the Franklin Historical Society Meeting
2 September 2021

Program: “**The Covered Bridges of NH**” presented by Bill Caswell,
president of the NH Covered Bridge Association

Refreshments provided by Elizabeth Jewell

Business meeting: called to order by President Leigh Webb at 8:05pm with a reading from *The Foolish Dictionary* on “seasons”.

- Salute to the Flag led by Linda Pauwels
- Moment of Silence for departed members (Melvin Piper)
- **Secretary’s Report** (online draft): **Motion** to approve made by Annette Cain, seconded by Elizabeth Jewell, *passed*.
- **Treasurer’s Report**: This year’s insurance is paid. Karen Darling requested that there be a Report from the Treasurer at each meeting, with a minimum of the account(s) balance provided. Leigh and Dan Darling (treasurer) will ensure Dan has access (i.e. is a signatory) on the IFA account.

Old and/or Continuing Business:

Committee Reports:

- Building—in contact now with Steve Fifield re: sill work estimate (Leigh has found black mold on sills).
- FaceBook update— Karen: nothing new to report
- Education Comm—4th and 5th grade combined Webster presentation—no date set, and dependent on Covid protocols, per Franklin Middle School Principal Ken Darcy. Suggested by Chris Lewis that we form a relationship with the Superintendent and Principals of each school (elementary, middle and high school) to ensure that the history of Franklin is taught in every grade. This relationship-building is in progress.
- Curator—New additions from donors (list from the September e-Newsletter): from **the Byrne Family**, an exquisite 1885 “crazy quilt” created for her daughter by Narcissa Blanchard Herrick just two years before her death (husband Daniel Herrick, who not only was instrumental in determining the correct equipment necessary to establish the very first paper mill in Franklin in 1822, but also worked for Herrick and Walter Aiken in their mills as a designer); from **Annette Cain** rifle club mementos, maps, reference books, two FFD photos of her father fighting a fire, Hill history tomes, a local Franklin business calendar, and even blank name plates for a wall plaque; from **Linda Pauwels** newspaper obits and articles of historic interest; from “**Taffy**” **Johnson** a book published in 1886 on the dedication of the statue of Daniel Webster placed in front of the NH State House and a 1904 publication of memorial poems and the ancestry of Daniel Webster tracing a line of descent to Taffy as a relative of the great statesman and orator!; from **Maureen Aube** four ceramic dishes and a cache pot

adorned with a picture of Franklin's Soldier's Memorial and City Hall captioned "The Franklin Opera House" (originally collected by Steve Foley and donated to the Opera House for its Celebrity Waiters Dinner auction, where they were purchased by Maureen and then generously donated to the Society to benefit both organizations); and from **Rita Norander** a marvelous miniature foldable jeweler's loupe in its original leather envelope casing from Franklin's Lawrence Jewelers, a 1921 note in its transmittal envelope with a stamp commemorating the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620 with two unused 2020 stamps for the *four* hundredth anniversary of the same event, a Granny Judy's business card (proving how history continues to unfold every day, as this restaurant has been replaced by Wyatt's Family restaurant), and two "lucky pennies" from the Merrimack County Savings Bank.

New/Other Business:

- Volunteers for Labor Day weekend: docents, general cleaning, garden cleanup. Karen will come on Sunday.
- Christmas dinner? Second Sunday in December? Leigh will contact Glen Morrill. Suggested by Elizabeth that we use the term "holidays" dinner, so as not to exclude anyone.

Next Month: Thursday, October 7th: "Remembering the Proctor House", with John Benham and Leigh Webb

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Minutes taken by Karen Darling, Recording Secretary