

Franklin Historical Society

Meeting Minutes- Thursday, July 5, 2018

Minutes taken by Dan Cerat (member) in the absence of Karen Darling (Secretary).

Program: “Scrapbook Review”

***Society President Leigh Webb provided an informative and fascinating slideshow presentation on some of the scrapbooks that the Society has in its collection, covering periods from the late 1880’s to 1985, with a nod to the creators of the scrapbooks. Attendees shared what they knew or remembered of various pictures and articles on the slides.**

**Following the presentation, an array of refreshments were provided by Rosemary Mellon and Leigh Webb*

Meeting

The July business meeting of the Franklin Historical Society opened at 8:25pm. at the Webster-Tay House.

Steve Foley led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was observed for all deceased members of the Society.

Secretary’s Report

Minutes of the June meeting (online draft) were shared via link on e-mail prior to the meeting, for member perusal. It was noted that on the website the minutes of April, May and June are listed under heading of 2017. They are correct on the actual minutes documents once they are opened. Leigh will correct this on the website so that they can be easily located and read- especially after some time has passed if they need to be referenced in the future. The minutes of the June were then passed unanimously (motion by Linda Pauwels, seconded by Mary Foley)

Treasurer’s Report

There will be a treasurer’s report at the next meeting as Treasurer Carleton Ham was not present.

OLD BUSINESS AND UPDATES ON CURRENT BUSINESS

Committee Reports

Building Committee- The scissor lift is in constant use. Thank you to Steve Foley for arranging the loan of this lift (from William Day) as well as the plywood (from Alan Larter) at no cost to the Society. Leigh has worked on the clapboards surrounding the “crown molding” of the front door. It will all be painted white upon completion of the

restoration. It is still a work in progress. Note of interest shared: probably 200 plus year old corn cobs were found inside the trim under the eaves. The thought is that most likely these were placed there when the house was built for insulation. A new header will be used to seal the top of the wall.

A garden/grounds clean up day will be announced soon.

Cookbook Committee- Some member recipe early submissions didn't make it into the cookbook so members had been asked to please resubmit if this applied. Dan Cerat re-sent some recipes in to Leigh. Leigh found a fitting picture of a 3rd grade class (most likely at the former Parker-Hancock School) that could go in with Janet Cerat's chocolate chip cookie recipe she shared that she used to bake for her class. A member mentioned that Kathy Fuuler may have also submitted some recipes that did not get included in the first edition cookbook. Leigh suggested Mary Foley to get in touch with her if possible. Steve suggested maybe updating cookbooks for a new edition periodically- all agreed this would be a great idea. Leigh is trying to find pictures (inside and out) of the Polish Home on West Bow Street (now the May Garden Restaurant building). Many wedding receptions took place here and maybe families still have photos they would share. Dan C. suggested maybe checking to see if a small article could be included in the St. Gabriel Parish bulletin, asking for photos that could be e-mailed to the Society website or mailed in to the Society- as most of the Polish Families were parishioners and would have had their wedding Ceremony/Mass at St. Paul's Church prior to receptions at the Polish Home. Originals would be returned to their owners after being scanned.

Facebook Committee- Steve said Facebook is going well and that there are frequent visits to the page. Steve, Joya and Karen all contribute/collaborate on this page.

Education Committee- Chris is not present but Leigh sent Then and Now pictures to be used. There will be further discussion and Chris can share on how Billboard project (to which more photos from the Society's collections were used) is coming along.

Plant Sale

The Society generated about \$300 in sales. Also some cookbooks were sold. Not as much revenue as last year was made but the weather was not in our favor (rained towards the end of the posted hours).

Museum Report

Reminder: the museum is now open each Saturday from 10am to 2pm- Memorial Day to Labor Day weekend. (On Labor Day weekend- open all 3 days Sat., Sun, Mon. from 10am-2pm)

Project Updates:

Plaque for "Sentinel Pine" Through research it is now known that the Sentinel Pine was located in what is now a thirteen acre lot off Proctor Street that is owned by the Allen Family. Leigh got their contact info from the City Assessor but has not contacted them yet to see if a plaque could be placed here. This is an over-grown lot at the present time.

Field Trip in August

An open discussion was held on suggestions for the annual August field trip of the Society. Ideas suggested and discussed were: Saint-Gaudens (Cornish, NH), Cog Railway (Bretton Woods), Mt. Washington or smaller vessel cruise on Winnepesaukee, Weeks Estate (Lancaster), Franklin Pierce Homestead (Hillsboro), Wright Museum (Wolfboro) paired with Libby Museum (Wolfboro), Tour of Webster Place by Leigh (cannot go into buildings or tunnels), Ashland Historical Society Buildings- Railroad Museum, Glidden Toy Museum, Whipple House, Old Time Fair at Potter Place which is a set date of Sunday, August 5th.

Price generalities were discussed for some of these suggested places to give members an idea of costs involved.

It was decided as a group that it should be narrowed down to three places as possibilities and that Leigh will e-mail this to all members, so that each can reply with their choice if they plan to attend.

The three finalized options for the August field trip are: *Mt. Washington or Doris E/Sophie C cruise around Winnepesaukee, Wright & Libby Museums of Wolfboro, or Saint Gaudens Historic Site.*

Recent Acquisitions

Leigh updated members on the most recent donations from contributors to the Society- for archiving and placing in the Society collections: Steve and Mary Foley: dress form; Elizabeth Jewell: Mission style chair from Franklin RR freight office; Sue Marceau/Pat Collins: Price booklet, c. 1917, Cunningham & Marceau Wines and Garneau book; Ed Perkins (MA) via library: (7) vintage photos; Donna and Roy Gilbreth: Pastel portrait from Helen Hird's house on Prospect St.; Jan Andrus: paper copy of photo of Nesmith School

The chair from the Franklin RR freight office was on display in the meeting room for all members to look over, following the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighboring historical society upcoming programs:

The Old Time Fair at Potter Place on Sunday, August 5th. Members encouraged to take part in this event as it is hosted by a sister society and close by. Highlighted in this event mention are a chicken bbq dinner, delicious strawberry shortcakes and annual auction as well as a myriad of other activities and features that make up the Fair.

Program at Sanbornton Historical Society- July 12th at 7pm, "Lakes Region & Pemigewasset Valley Stories" Presenter: Dan Heyduk

This program will be held at the Lane Tavern on Rt. 132 in Sanbornton Square- near post office. It was noted in this heat wave that the Lane Tavern is air conditioned. All are welcome.

Our September Program

Slideshow of Franklin's Journal-Transcript negatives- September 6, 2018 at 7pm at the Webster-Tay House.

Historical Glimpses

Before the conclusion of the meeting the President read the meanings of two words from an old fashioned dictionary of humorous/sarcastic definitions. Members always enjoy these often very funny "definitions".

Adjournment

A motion (Steve F.) and a second (Rosemary M.) were made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm.

Submitted by Dan Cerat