

## FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2017

Venue: Webster-Tay House – 7 pm

Program: “**Castle in the Clouds: the Historic Lucknow Estate**” a video presented by Dan Darling of Heartstring Media (and FHS member)

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The Business Meeting was called to order at 8:10pm by Leigh Webb, President, with a clever “definition” from humorous, historic book, “The Foolish Dictionary” by Gideon Wurdz, 1904 by John W. Luce & Co., Boston.

### Salute to the Flag

### Moment of Silence for Departed Members

**Secretary's Report** – July 7 minutes were circulated.

- Motion made by Annette Adreozzi, seconded by Rosemary Mellon, to accept the minutes as written; *passed*.

**Treasurer's Report** – Circulated by Carlton

- Motion to accept was made by Jack Tobey; seconded by Linda Geiler; *passed*.

### Unfinished/Continuing Business:

- **Committee Reports**

- **Building** -- Exterior work (vinyl siding removal, scraping, painting, lattice and fascia board replacement) – some has been completed, some ongoing. Mildew on one end of porch, north-facing, was discussed.
  - **Education** – Chris Lewis reported not being successful using on-line Survey Monkey in June; revised the survey and sent by e-mail this week to teachers/administrators. Greater focus on “traveling trunk” topics – has received a few replies already.
  - **Cookbook** – committee met recently, good progress; have 31 recipes, need more stories.
  - **Facebook Page** – have had several people visiting the page comment that our current water-marking on photos is so prominent that it detracts from enjoying the photos and seeing details. Much discussion; may bring to vote at next month’s meeting. Karen posted album of 50+ photos of “garden tour” at August’s trip to The Fells, and has been posting segments of the monthly newsletter, weekly. It was noted that Franklin Library consistently “likes” all posts almost immediately.
- **“Open Sundays”** ended this last weekend (Labor Day weekend). Have had a few visitors, new members, sales of books and ice cream. Many have stopped in while riding on the rail trail – be on the lookout for a “bike rack” that we could put out front – this would not only prevent bikes being leaned on our gardens, but might encourage others also to stop in.
    - Question? Are Sundays the best day? Should we be open on Saturdays instead? People are used to Sundays. Leigh misses the annual Andover Historical Society Fair, held the first Sunday of August, each year, and could have a FHS booth there, if didn’t need to be

at our museum. Another member could be museum docent for that day. Will consider options for next summer.

- **“The Fells” Field Trip Summary**

- Sat. August 26<sup>th</sup> – 7 members attended (11 had emailed that they would attend) and enjoyed the garden and house tours immensely. Garden tours were officially over for the summer, but head of the Education Department himself gave us a wonderful tour; house tour docent was also a wealth of information.
- Leigh is accumulating photos of the day to put together a summary.

### New/Other Business

- **Recent Donations, received from:**

- **Deb Brown** – stamps, diaries of Alice Shepard’s mother and one for John Shepard, Jr. while at Harvard
  - **Shelly Williams** – framed 1932 panoramic photo of Webster Bust Dedication
  - **Annette Cain** – postcards and interior snapshots (her First Communion) of St. Paul’s
  - **Carol Hodgdon** – FHS yearbooks, 1967-2002 and Class of 1970 Reunion material, and Valentine’s Day cards 1935-1942 (Joan and Porter Young); Tilton documents: Donna and Roy Gilbreth; F.H. Chapman medicine bottle; [4] slides of 1986 Grevior Furniture fire
  - **Nita Tomaszewski** – note cards and a plaque commemorating 25 years of service by her mother to the Episcopal Church as Altar Directress
  - Anonymous? – small medicine bottle from Main Street Pharmacy, and Webster Lake map (left at Leigh’s house)
- **Franklin High School Yearbooks** – we have some from early 1900’s and most from 1950’s on, with some gaps. Steve suggested that we could specify which years we are missing, and ask on Facebook if anyone has those to donate.
  - **Albert Garneau** (question from Rosemary): Was he ever President of the Historical Society?
    - Possibly, before the current FHS was established in 1981, but we have no record.
    - Suggestion that we somehow recognize his contributions in our Roster – perhaps mention when he was Citizen of the Year?

**Next meeting:** October 5, 2017; Program: “*(Some of) Franklin’s Historic Homes*” – hope to have total of at least four. Currently, Leigh & Annette’s (Chapman House), Bussiere’s (Shepard House). Perhaps the Tobey’s house, built in 1732.

**Adjournment:** 8:40pm

Submitted by Karen Darling  
Recording Secretary