

Minutes for the Franklin Historical Society Meeting  
1 September 2022

Program: “**The History of the Webster Lake Association**” with Sheila Rainford

Refreshments

Business meeting:

Salute to the Flag

Moment of Silence for departed members

Secretary’s Report (online draft) – *motion* to approve the minutes of August 2022 made by Elizabeth Jewell, seconded by Annette Andreozzi -- ***passed***

Treasurer’s Report – treasurer absent, no formal report. Noted by the president that the insurance bill of \$2,200 has been paid; there has been a considerable downturn in our investment savings, as is true for everyone’s, not just ours.

Old and/or Continuing Business:

Committee Reports:

Building —mildew abatement spray has been applied, some clapboards and lower trim board to be replaced, some painting still to be done; garden thinning Labor Day Weekend if volunteers are available (10am-2pm all three days – docent guide is printed, if someone can donate even a couple of hours it is much appreciated.)

Facebook update – one women had inquired about wheelchair accessibility; even with a ramp to the inside the space between displays is too narrow, the building is not ADA compliant. A phone “tour”/descriptions while viewing “virtual tour” photos on the website has been offered.

Education Comm—

- Chris Lewis “Traveling Trunk” update – the committee is having a “hands-on” meeting on Tues, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at Karen Darling’s to review items; anyone is invited. Chris will be meeting with “Portrait of a Graduate” soon.
- Leigh is in discussions with the Superintendent about Franklin High School class on “History of Franklin”

Roster—distributed by email. An observant member saw that two other members had moved out of state, so needed correction.

Curator—thanking donors for gifts this past month: **Virginia and Roger Gross**, for a “Re-elect Whittemore” cap, blank “Log Cabin” stationery, and a summer concert on the island fan (which may well be passed on to the newly energized Tilton Historical Society); **Annette Cain** for an “archaeological” find on her property by the lake, of a large rusted “tooth” from a farm machine—begging the question, why was it there?!; **Linda Pauwels** for her usual collection of interesting newspaper articles, including a copy of the tribute to Chris Lewis for her 45 years as a teacher; **Kathy Fuller** for a long

list of finds—including photos such as one of the Webster Inn during its better days and a vintage image of Alfred Chase Elliott, a trunnel from the Republican Bridge, a framed Sawyer print of the Birthplace cabin, a 1945 Legislative manual signed by her grandfather Henry Proulx, WWII era Franklin High School yearbooks, High School Booster Club books, NHHS magazines, Life Magazine publications, toys, a 1948 calendar from a Concord company, various booklets, two maps of Vietnam with a list of those places Major Priscilla Gilchrist was sent during her service there, and a binder of her awards, promotions, and certificates (now on display with Lt. Colonel Gilchrist’s uniform and medals); and **the family of Denise Lemire Montambeault** for a Zippo-style lighter from Merwin’s Gun Shop, a Franklin Centennial pin-back button, a 1919 program welcoming back the heroes of WWI back to Franklin, Armand Lemire’s Daniell Jr. High report card, and autograph book with signatures from FHS students from call of 1925, ‘26, and ‘27, and photos with Armand Lemire including his FHS class of ‘43 reunions, a newspaper photo accepting archery equipment, the 1953 K of C bowling team, and the St. Mary’s Jr. Baseball League Champs.

Printing of (30) Webster Lake maps *still* at printer in Concord

Lisa Martin Roger S. Martin display (work in progress, nothing new)

Projects update--Joya Clark’s calendar idea numbers, vote, printing entity and accessibility; Joya not present, no update

Open Saturdays—Labor Day weekend **volunteers** needed

Refreshments—confirm Oct. (Linda P.) and Nov. (Rita and Annette C.)

#### New/Other Business:

Recognition of Randy Kovach’s efforts to replace all that was stolen at the Webster Birthplace and make it an inviting attraction. (Everything was cleaned out; 90% of it belonged to the Historical Society.)

#### Announcements:

Sanbornton’s next event – Sept. 8, “**How** Victorian Ladies Got Dressed”; 7pm at the Lane Tavern

#### Any other business/late items:

- Question: Any update on the Odell Cottage? Recently, windows broken out by vandals. Lucy Tay Odell built the cottage as a lodge for the park’s caretaker.
- Question: Any update on the Gerrish Station? Leigh has imminent meeting (next week) with State; needs shoring up.

Next meeting: Oct. 6, 7 pm “**Fall Foliage**” from Jeannette Morency’s slides\* *[This presentation is subject to change, depending upon amount of material and functionality of the slide projector.]* Working slide projectors still sought by the Society: Several attendees offered one!

Meeting adjourned 8:25pm