

FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2016

Venue: Webster/Tay House – 7 pm

Program: “Recent Acquisitions and Collection Discoveries” plus a tour to Society storage rooms with President Leigh Webb

The Business Meeting was called to order by Leigh Webb, President, at 8:35 pm

Salute to the Flag – Led by Carlton Ham

Moment of Silence for Departed Members

Secretary's Report – The April 2016 minutes were circulated, but not voted on-- to be done at the June 2 meeting

Treasurer's Report – Carlton Ham passed around copies of the Annual Treasurer's report. Discussion included that liability insurance will go up this year. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Linda Pauwels, seconded by Jackie O'Rourke. Motion passed.

Old and/or Continuing Business

Election of Board and Officers – Three directors' three-year terms were up: Chris Lewis and Steve Foley happy to continue; Mark Bussiere, Vice President, is stepping down. The following slate of Officers and Directors for re-election was presented, and accepted unanimously:

- Leigh Webb, President
- Linda Pauwels, Vice President
- Carton C. Ham, Treasurer
- Bob Morin, Co-Recording Secretary
- Karen Darling, Co-Recording Secretary
- Annette Andreozzi, Curator
- Dan Cerat, Assistant Curator
- Steve Foley
- Chris Lewis
- Will Clark (new member)

Field Trip Suggestions – Several places were suggested in the April meeting as possible outings for members, probably one day in August – members are to keep these in mind, and add any other ideas they might have:

- Frost Farm, Weeks Estate, Franklin Pierce Homestead, Wentworth-Coolidge Estate (all NH State Parks); Augustus St. Gaudens (NPS); London Historical Society; Potter Place.

Committee Reports

Building -

- **Insurance**
 - Carlton received policy proposal, but it is more comprehensive than we need; cost \$1200; Carlton still to meet with Gale Agency contact.
 - Motion made by Steve Foley, seconded by Judith Ackerson: Rather than involve the full membership with details, ask the Executive Committee to meet with Carlton and decide on what is needed. Passed.
 - Discussion: Leigh had been asked to check with other Historical Societies, to see how they handle insurance on items – he did so, and others don't have insurance on their contents, as most items are irreplaceable. Consensus was not to price coverage on collections. Most homeowners/building insurance includes a % for contents.
 - \$700 due in August, as our portion of Easter Seals existing coverage on all buildings.

- Vinyl siding removal – will be when weather improves, as well as a general clean-up day. President will send e-mail notice.

Museum/Collections (Curator's Report) – Kudos were expressed for the tour of the extensive “storage” rooms upstairs and ongoing archiving and inventorying work, as well as for the slide show of “discoveries.” Both provided members with a greater appreciation of the scope of the Society’s work.

Recipe Book Project – no update

Museum Hours – Sundays 10am-2pm, May 8 through Labor Day

- Sunday, June 19 – 12:45pm, author Peddlar Bridges’ talk on the history of Bike Week
- Sunday, June 26 – Plant sale

Roster Update and Membership Dues –In process – contact sheet was distributed for noting any corrections (by those who hadn’t responded by e-mail).

Book Purchase – 40 more copies of Elizabeth Jewell’s book *Franklin Then and Now* arrived and have been signed by the author

Gerrish Station – No updates at this time.

Upside Down Bridge – Looking into grant possibilities – Leigh planning to walk path soon, look for possible sign placement spots.

Painting of Franklin Library – The Betty Jeanne Bassett painting, formerly featured in the FHS cafeteria, to be restored and brought to the Society for donation to the library by end of the school year.

Historic Home Signs – wooden (or possibly plastic) signs still available – can purchase for any historic house; see Leigh if interested.

New/Other Business

Community Day Volunteers, Sat. May 14, 9am-2pm, Odell Park – Ken & Judith Ackerson, Elizabeth and Annette, will cover manning the FHS booth.

Plant Sale –Sat. June 26; bring plants, in any containers.

Route 3 Sign Use Proposal – pending:

- Is eventually up to the City.
- Voted last meeting that the FHS prefers that the originals stay here, for protection.
- It was suggested that perhaps the original signs could be sprayed, to minimize effects of vandalism, but Brian Sullivan, Director of the City’s Municipal Services, unaware of any effective coating.

June 2 Program: “History of Elms Farm, the NH Orphanage and Sisters of Holy Cross” with special guest, Jeanne Douillard, being brought by member Sheila Rainford.

- Suggested that this program be audio or video-taped -- Dan Darling can do.
- If special guest can’t make it, back-up program will be “History of the Property”.

Announcements/Correspondence

- **Historical Society of Sanbornton** – May 12, “Shaker Legacy”, a NH Humanities program

Adjournment – 9:15pm

Submitted by Karen Darling