

Wilmot Historical Society Minutes

Town Office

January 9, 2025

President Liz Kirby called the meeting to order at 5:35

In Attendance

Liz Kirby, Bruce Sanborn, Mary Fanelli, Marc Davis, Julie Morse, Catherine Stearns, Carolyn Rayno (came late at 5:39), Brenda Gessner Guest: Ben Taylor

Ben Taylor volunteered to take minutes.

Minutes

Liz corrected one thing in the minutes of the meeting in Nov, adding Betsy Forsham to the second line.

Catherine made the motion to accept, Bruce seconded and approved as amended by all.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce reported that the checking account has \$2,500 in it. He explained that he heard back from the IRS, saying everything is all set and updated (from April 2024) from Nov 1 to Oct 31.

Bruce said he can move forward with 1099. Because the WHS made over \$50,000 for the year a different form has to be filed. Marc made a motion to accept the treasures report. Julie seconded the motion.

Building Fund - There was talk about this staying as a separate account. There was a bit of talk about distinguishing which funds came from where. We previously had \$20,000 for a building fund.

A question was raised about collecting the money from the estate. Bruce talked with Bar Harbor about getting the \$77,000 in case the society got enough money so 3 years turned into 4 years. There was a note saying more is coming and Bruce will look into it.

Membership - Mary asked about tracking membership. Bruce will keep track of memberships because right now there is no secretary. Bruce explained the deposits break down in the HS account as membership and donations.

All addresses, and everything should be updated. Mary wanted to make sure it was noted that Bruce is not handling this.

Other Business

The secretary position is open. Nancy Langley does not have any interest in the secretary position, which involves taking minutes and distributing them to board members.

Bruce will get thank you letters from Mary.

Committee Reports

Building Committee

Liz brought a picture of the new design for approval, everyone liked the new design.

It is the original Kearsarge Grange Building.

Bruce reported that in the next couple weeks he will be meeting to write up a couple warrant articles. He is trying to get the lot by at the end of Pine Hill Rd and Rte. 11 that belongs to the town—up to a 2 acre parcel.

We need to be prepared with a number figure, the town administrator will help. The hope is to get the 2 acres for \$20,000.

There was more discussion about how Bruce is going to propose to get the 2 acres for the lot and the amount he will propose. (Right now there is an easement for electrical wires going through the property).

There is no street number on Pine Hill Road until you build on the lot.

Bruce explained that there used to be an oil storage tank by the tip, something that might have to be looked up by DES (explained Mark)

The first warrant article will be a petition to subdivide and sell it to the Historical Society

Second warrant gives the select board power to negotiate.

Some other discussion was explained first it has to be divided, then the lot line has to be moved

Liz suggested that if we surveyed the entire property, it may favor the HS. She also suggested we buy the lot from the town then give archival storage to the town indefinitely.

There was discussion on where storage material would be kept and how the building would be built.

The site seems to be a good site for a building as it is very easy to dig.

"If the town property is acquired by taxes, the selectboard can sell it, but if it is acquired by a different way, they need to have the town vote on selling it.

It was concluded that all of this should be in the presentation for the town meeting, by the middle or end of Feb.

Liz suggested asking a realtor what that property could be sold for.

Summary of Process

Need warrant article (permission to divide and sell), then second warrant article would be for a price, then vote for what we need/need to add

Bruce put forward should we put \$25,000 (Julie didn't like that amount, and Marc said no as well). Vote to allow Bruce to negotiate to create articles. Catherine made a motion to accept. Brenda seconded the motion. All agreed.

Technology Committee

Liz said to send pictures to Mary so she can put pics up on the website. These are pictures of events and meetings

Acquisitions

Catherine brought in a couple items that were recently donated. The list of items HS has recently acquired and will be emailed it to Ben to include in the minutes. (see end of minutes) Julie donated a book from the first Parish of Concord MA. Book of Quilts.

Genealogy

It was reported that they have not met for a long time with their next date to meet being Jan 23rd at 6:30pm.

PO Window for Feb

The HS will not be doing the window for Feb and Bark and Bray will take it over.

Committee Appointments

The HS decided that no other committees are necessary at this time.

Publicity

Put out flyers and cards to the public to show what we are doing and where. Mary will take care of sending these out to people to send them to the whole town. Need to send out the Newsletter as well. Sat March 1st Snow date March 8th is the Open Territory Walk about. Board Approved to send out postcards for public walk about.

Fundraising

There was some discussion on sponsoring a theater production for and where it would be held. It was suggested that the Town Hall would be an appropriate site. It could happen by October. There was then some discussion about a similar thing that happened a while ago (Wilmot Historical Production) and how it would be similar and different. It was decided that we should ask questions and get answers from the woman Liz talked to initially to see if we should move forward with this idea. Bruce also suggested an idea he came across to raise money—custom made playing cards.

Other Business

It was explained that we need to recruit more members. There was also some discussion on a program to present in April for humanities.

The meeting concluded at 7:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Taylor, Secretary Pro Tem

Recent acquisitions include:

- A hardcover book The Meeting House on the Green A History of The First Parish in Concord and its Church (Massachusetts) by John Whittemore Teele who was a great grandson of Wilmot's Samuel and Ellen (Clough) Teel. Recovered by Julie Morse.
- A wooden handled button hook donated by Julie Morse.
- A hardcover book The Quilt Story by Tony Johnson and illustrated and signed by Tomie dePaola. Donated by Catherine Stearns.
- A significant collection of many items found at Wedge Inn and donated by Walter Walker's family. Includes dish ware, large framed photos, a folding sewing table, a gateleg table and an early electric stovetop and cabinet (possibly from the 1930s). Listed but not yet catalogued.

2:32 PM
 01/06/25
 Cash Basis

WHS
Balance Sheet
 As of December 31, 2024

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
WHS Ckg x5396	2,500.79
WHS MM x0429	7,569.15
Building Fund CD 5906	10,841.45
Building CD 5914	22,932.91
Vet. Mem. CD 5922	2,106.50
Building CD1080	399,538.73
Total Checking/Savings	445,489.53
Total Current Assets	445,489.53
TOTAL ASSETS	445,489.53
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
C. Thompson Memorial (in ckg)	350.00
Walter Walker Memorial (in ckg)	1,595.00
Building Fund	354,511.24
Veterans Memorial	2,090.78
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	358,547.02
Unrestricted Net Assets	8,298.83
Net Income	78,643.68
Total Equity	445,489.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	445,489.53

2:29 PM
 01/06/25
 Cash Basis

WHS
Profit & Loss
 December 2024

	Dec 24
Income	
Membership Dues	15.00
Bequests	159.40
Donations	280.00
Book Sales	30.00
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	242.07
Total Income	726.47
Expense	
Operations	
Advertising Expenses	80.00
Total Operations	80.00
Total Expense	80.00
Net Income	646.47