

**Wilmot Historical Society
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2015, 2015
Town Offices at 1:14-3:10 p.m.**

Present: Judy Hauck, Marc Davis, Lindy Heim, Fred Ogmundson, Liz Kirby, Sue Finney, Julie Morse, Mary Fanelli

Secretary's report

Judy

Accepted minutes of the Sept. 14 meeting.

Treasurer's report

Mary

Moved and approved that CD#1 be renamed "Building Fund" and CD#2 be renamed "Working Fund."

Checking Account:	\$11,468.65
Memorial Fund :	\$4,446.67
Building Fund	CD#1 \$20,998.91
Working Fund	CD#2 \$10,050.01
Expenses to date:	\$0
Annual Meeting:	\$115 dues, \$5.00 donations
Member Count:	28

New Business -

Marc

Jack McAuliffe was hospitalized and is now at home.

Clara Langley is not doing as well as expected. Judy will send her a get-well-wish card. Cards will also be sent to the NL Hospital Clough Center for Judith Walker and Joyce Tawney, and we thank Julie Morse for her care and attention to these two ladies.

Loan of clothing to NLHS: We have loaned our educational clothing collection to the NLHS from Oct.25 – April 25 for their volunteers to use. We received a thank you note from them and passes for their Holiday Open House. We also received a thank you note from the Wilmot Farmers' Market for our music donation in 2015.

Annual meeting –Walter Walker's book was well-received at the Annual Meeting. We sold 10 copies. Marc showed some of the photos at the-Meeting. They lost some definition when they were scanned from the book, so it would be better if we could scan his original photographs.

Annual Newsletter – timing Mary Fanelli proposed that we send out an earlier newsletter since our fiscal year ends in November. The WHS newsletter will then come out earlier than other newsletters. She suggests December 1 or 7.

Report on Oral History Projects

Lindy.

We have two sets of oral history collections, one that is saved on audio cassette tapes (with many backup tapes) and more recently a collection of videotaped interviews that are already formatted digitally.

It was agreed last time we talked about the subject as a board, ~~that~~ having transcribed records of oral histories and old audiotaped programs were considered a high priority. Lindy has converted 17 of the approximately 27 cassettes into digital files and given them to Kim White on two thumb drives. We should try to prioritize which ones we want transcribed and in what order.

Transcription project: reported by Lindy Heim

Kim White has spent 6 hours configuring how to transcribe the cassette recordings for us. She has ½ of #16 done as a trial, has researched software and hardware for us, and has done \$100 worth of work to date. We agreed on a \$15/hour rate for other than transcribing work and \$50 for transcribing an **entire** digital tape. I checked with Jim Perkins, New London's archivist, to see what the going rate was for hiring out transcribers and \$50 was the best he could find. He and I will stay in touch via www.nlarchives.org. His position is a town sponsored one with an annual budget of \$1000. According to him, there was a flurry of oral histories recorded on a digital recorder in 2008 for New London's bicentennial, but not many since.

We should pay Kim for her time so far. In the future, she has agreed to transcribe a 1-hr. tape for \$50. It will take her approximately 2 hours to do it, and it will have the interviewer's speech in bold and the interviewee's in regular lettering. See her example when I show it to you at the next meeting and make recommendations. In the end, we will have digital copies of old oral histories and programs that will become searchable for research when posted on our website. These files will be easy to use for correcting the spelling of names and places mentioned.

At the \$50 rate, she can transcribe 12 one hour interviews or event tapings for us per year. Kim is OK with her annual income from this project not exceeding the \$600 ceiling **that** the IRS puts on paying consultants before complicated filings are required.

She is also agreeable to using her own PC and pedal. We do need to buy her the \$119 Gear Player #4 software package that works with her pedal so that she is able to do the work. If we want her to have a dedicated computer, she has shared information on the two Nancy Bates recommends.

She is ordering the Gear Player so we need to reimburse her. She used a trial version to check it out and to produce the sample she has given me to show you at the next meeting. The purchase has to be made online with a credit card, so she is doing that for us. A plus about this program is that it is able to be shared, used on different computers just not at the same time. You sign in and out as it exists in the cloud not on our computer.

DVD project(s):

We have 10 interviews of Wilmot citizens in DVD format. Some are pretty good, some terrible and one or two are outstanding. Mary spearheaded turning the raw footage of an interview of Jack McAuliffe into a very nice DVD worth screening as a program or possibly offering for sale as a fundraiser. It was a very good idea to see just what can be done when a professional videographer gets her hands on poor-quality footage. I pulled the balance of DVDs from the library as they weren't being checked out.

Mary and Judy solicited recommendations from her videographer professional, Theresa Chamberland, so that the video footage we record from now on is of good quality. They bought the WHS a quality camcorder and lapel mic, which we are practicing using.

As far as what to do with the rest of the video interviews we have, it might be possible to have Theresa compose another video that combines themes and footage from several videos. In view of the considerable expense, I am not sure we should devote such a large portion of our financial resources toward producing very nice DVDs on a regular basis, but I am open to ideas.

Action Items

Julie needs the dimensions of the quilt and a decision about where to display it. She has talked with Connie Jordan about preservation.

Marc will:

- write Connie Jordan, the WCA and the WPL giving them the quilt dimensions
- check on scanner prices
- Complete an offsite storage form for the WHS artifacts at your residence
- Grant money
- Thompson diaries

We need more information about the people now on our web site from their relatives or from sources in our collection. Perhaps the people who will be hosting in the History Room this summer could choose a specific person about whom to get information.

Mary will download each person and attach a list of the kinds of information needed so that hosts or visitors can fill them in.

Genealogy ideas – Liz Kirby suggested that the WHS obtain a \$190.00 membership in Ancestry.com to which site all board members would have access. We might also allow WHS members paid access. Mary moved that she purchase a one-year membership. Motion was approved.