

Wilmot Historical Society
October 28, 2020
Minutes

Liz Kirby, president, opened the meeting on Zoom at 1:03 p.m.

In attendance were board members Nola Aldrich, Judy Hauck, Catherine Stearns, Lindy Heim, Mary Fanelli.

Excused: Marc Davis, Fred Ögmundson, and Julie Morse

Visitor: Bill Doody

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted with changes that were sent before the meeting.

Treasurer's report:

Checking	\$ 826.45
Money Mkt	\$38,207.96
Mascoma	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Total	\$44,034.41

Membership 2021 6

Bill Doody

Liz asked that we have Bill Doody present first so he did not have to stay through the whole meeting.

Bill, representing the North Wilmot Church (The North Wilmot Union Meeting House Society (NWUMHS)), proposed the idea of petitioning the Coach House Restaurant for a Thursday's Child event. Since we are both focused on historical preservation, it seemed like a good match. A vote was taken and unanimously passed to have Catherine (who is also on the NWUMHS board) be the liaison between the two organizations to promote this fundraising opportunity.

OLD BUSINESS

Mini-newsletter

The MailChimp newsletter that was sent out this month was well-received. Mary has added an application at the bottom of it in order to mail it to some of our members who do not have email. The board asked if we could circulate this via email rather than doing the regular mailing that we usually do after the first of each year. There was some discussion about obtaining mail lists. Lindy will get the email list for the Ladies Aid. Mary will ask the library if we can use their list as it has over 400 recipients. She will also see if the town will put it on their news email. Lindy reported that Deb Perkins got the MailChimp newsletter and pursued every link in it plus the website!!!! Mary will correct the wrong caption under the church photo.

Video Equipment

Judy has been having problems with the new video camera. The SD card was faulty and she feels the current camera has too many bells and whistles. Not easy to operate. She will pursue finding something simpler that will accomplish the task.

Historical Tours

The tours are up on the front page of the WHS website. There has been good response from those who have tried them. Lindy was thanked for her persistence in getting this project completed.

Boston Post Cane

Liz contacted May Jones to see if she knew of someone older than she who would qualify for the cane. May mentioned Ethel Hasseck on Jewell Lane. Liz tried to contact her but has not been successful. If

Ethel does not want this honor, then the next people in line, as far as we could determine, would be May Jones and Walter Walker. Liz will continue to try to contact Ethel with help from Catherine, who knows Ethel.

Search for Treasurer

Now that Nancy Bates, our treasurer, has relocated to Portsmouth to work, we are seeking someone to take over that role for the WHS. Liz asked if anyone had suggestions. Bill Doody's name was mentioned, but the group felt that he was probably overworked already! Christine Jenssen and Brian McCarthy's names were also mentioned. Meanwhile, Mary will continue to fill this role.

Reissue of Cap LeVarn's book

Liz has not been able to contact Cap's grandson to see if he has any objection to reprinting "An Early History of Wilmot, NH." Cap's niece and nephew are fine with it. Mary made a motion to set aside up to \$500 toward the republication of this book. Motion passed unanimously. Judy offered to look into publication. One possibility is the prison print shop in Concord. The book would have to be taken apart in order to be copied if we went this route. Dragon Dictate, where the book could be read into a computer is another way of getting a copy. The goal is to make an index in the next publication, which is lacking in the current one.

NEW BUSINESS

Bunker deeds

Sue Ade from Virginia sent copies of original family deeds from 1817 through 1820, which appear to be for land in New London. We will refer her to New London Historical Society regarding these and provide contact info. She also sent copies of original deeds for Bunker family property in Wilmot dated 1841 and included a photo that looks like Nancy Langley's home. One of the witnesses to that deed was Benjamin Cross whom we know lived on Cross Hill. There is a map from 1892 and other deeds in the name of Sylvester Bunker. There is a photo of what might be Nancy Langley's home across from the Bunker Hill Cemetery, but it only has one floor. There is a possibility that another floor was added.

Billy Buskin's bridle

Caroline Fairless asked for the loan of Billy Buskin's bridle that is in the history room. She would like to use it as a prop as part of her introduction of "Bebe" Buskin the horse/art project on the green. Bebe's introduction to the world will be on Halloween. Mary made a motion to get the bridle and return it after the event is over on Saturday. Judy seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Hall Status

Liz announced that the grant for the town hall rehabilitation was turned down. After meeting with LCHIP to find out the details, it is hoped that we will apply again next year. The reason given for not getting the grant was that they ran out of money.

Liz returned to the subject of a new treasurer and reminded everyone that we can add another member to the board if we want to. She again asked that everyone keep thinking about someone who might be able to fill this office.

Meeting was ended at 2:35. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 18 at 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Fanelli, secretary