

Wilmot Historical Society
Minutes of Meeting
February 21, 2020
Town Office

President Elizabeth Kirby opened the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Present: Judy Hauck, Catherine Stearns, Mary Fanelli, Nola Aldrich, Fred Ogmundson, Marc Davis and Lindy Heim via Skype.

Excused: Julie Morse and Nancy Bates

Minutes: The minutes of January 17, 2020 were unanimously approved and will be posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report:

Mascoma Bank	\$ 5,000.00	
Ledyard MM	38,190.44	(\$20,000 is for bldg. fund and \$2,421.72 Veterans Memorial)
Ledyard Chking	<u>2,220.10</u>	
Total	\$45,410.54	

Expenses

Preservation Alliance dues \$50

OLD BUSINESS

The Feb. 1 program on Primary Elections was well received. We had a few new people. The program was on a Saturday rather than a Sunday. Liz suggested that we have a sign-in sheet at our programs to give people an opportunity to get on our Mailchimp list without necessarily joining the WHS. It would also give us a good idea of the number of people in attendance. She also suggested name tags for board members in attendance. Our next program will be on May 30—the 100th anniversary of the Veterans Memorial.

Town Hall Rehabilitation — March 12 is town meeting, and there will be warrant articles to decide on what approach to take to rehab the town hall. Mary will try to get the supporting document with the details to send with a Mailchimp to encourage people to come to town meeting and vote.

Projector—Judy Hauck has been authorized to go ahead and purchase a projector for the WHS not to exceed \$500 in cost. She might possibly get speakers and a lavalier if needed.

Committee Chairs — Liz asked if all committees had appointed chairs. Catherine and Marc will co-chair the Acquisitions Committee. Could not find anyone willing to head up the oral history production committee.

Veterans Memorial Celebration May 30 - George West of the local American Legion post will provide members to take part in the celebration. Next month Liz wants to put a program together. Liz has information from the last celebration when they restored the memorial. Lindy will take care of getting a block in the W.O.W. summer ad.

Researching old homes—Liz would like to see us go forward with this project of assisting Wilmot home owners with researching the history of their property. This might be a good project for the summer when the history room is open.

Bandstand supper—the board pretty much agreed that we want a more scaled down supper event this summer, so we decided on doing an Old-fashioned Dessert Social instead of a supper. Someone had the idea of asking the family who does the hot dog cart at the Post Office to come and serve hot dogs that evening. We (or they) would probably have to get permission from the BOS.

Audio interviews—Liz announced that the audio of her mom, Annie Thompson is now online. We talked about doing audio online, but Mary felt that, for the time being, having the audio transcripts is the easiest way to have information available for people doing historical research. Audios might be available in the future in the history room if people want to hear the original interview.

NEW BUSINESS

Liz and Catherine will have a table at the Wilmot Volunteer Fire Department breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 23. They will bring an old sled and snow roller as props and have copies of Home to the Mountain available to give away.

Acquisition Committee—will start marking and tagging items in the history room using the numbering system that has already been started.

Marc has acquired some glass photo negative plates from Walter Walker that he is going to have cleaned, archival protected and prints made. He is hoping that Walter might be willing to have more of these glass negatives cleaned and correctly stored. The board will support this project. Marc has spoken with New London archivist Jim Perkins who is going to help him with this project of cleaning and acquiring appropriate storage sleeves and boxes for them.

Liz announced that she will be attending a Cemetery Tour Workshop in Concord on March 28 if anyone is interested in going. This is sponsored by the NH Historical Society and the cost is \$25 per person for members of the NH Historical Society and \$50.00 for non-members.

1956 History of Wilmot by Cap LeVarn—We only have a couple of copies of the original and the reprint. Liz would like to have copies made. Mary suggested that, rather than photocopying or scanning the book that we type up a new original and have it published again in hardcover through an online publisher. Judy is going to see if she can easily make a digital copy using Dragon Dictate. Once the text is digitized, we can have copies made whenever we need them. Liz has spoken to a relative of Cap LeVarn who thinks that his family might be receptive to having the historical society reproduce more copies. Liz will pursue getting the permission. The printshop at the prison would be glad to photocopy the book and print it in soft cover for about \$5 each.

Jeff Blake, a friend of the late Brian Chase who bought his house on Morey Lane, came into the meeting and gave us a late 1800s copy of a Wilmot Town Report he found in the Morey barn. He has found other artifacts buried under the barn at the house.

Cemetery flag holders—Al price found two cemetery flag holders in the history room that should not have been removed from the graves. They were undocumented, so Al is taking them and returning them to the cemetery.

Meeting was concluded around 2:45.

Next meeting will be on March 20 at 1 p.m. in the town office

CURRENT ACTION ITEM LIST

Liz – President's message for newsletter.

Liz - Schedule and re-record the Harrison Hunt interview

Liz - Plan for the Veterans Memorial Celebration for next meeting.

Liz - Get in touch with the fellow who bought the post office to see if he and his boys want to do hot dogs on July 11 for supper.

Mary - Reserve WCA for May 30.

Mary - Get supporting document for town hall warrant and send out via mail chimp to promote attendance at town meeting and vote on warrant article.

Lindy - Reserve a block in the summer W.O.W. ad for Memorial Day event May 30.

Judy - Using Dragon Dictate, digitize Cap LeVarn's book.

Judy - Buy projector and check on lavalier and speakers.

Marc - Make sure all WHS property presently kept by you at home is documented as being on loan using our loaner form.

Marc – Work with Walter Walker to clean and preserve very old glass photo negatives in Walter's collection.

Mary – Web site options

2020 CALENDER

BOD meetings at WTO unless changed. – March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16.

- Quarterly Programs

- May 30 - 100th Birthday of Soldiers Monument
- September program
- Annual Meeting - TBA

- Curiosity Shop - three dates TBA

- Bandstand Supper July 11

- WHS room every Sat AM during Farmers Markets