

Wilmot Historical Society

Minutes

February 17, 2021

1:04 PM – President Liz Kirby called the meeting to order via Zoom.

Present: Catherine Stearns, Judy Hauck, Fred Ogmundson, Mary Fanelli, Nola Aldrich.

Excused: Marc Davis, Julie Morse, Lindy Heim

Minutes: January 27, 2021 were accepted as corrected and circulated.

Treasurer's report:

January 31, 2021 Balances

Money Market, Ledyard: \$38,214.29 (Including in "Building Fund" - \$21,153.48)

Checking Ledyard \$926.71

Mascoma \$5,000

Total: \$44,141

Membership as of 2/17/2021 88 Members Dues: \$435 Donations: \$1375

Old Business

- **Oral history progress** – *Mary* in Lindy's absence

Lindy sent a list with an update on all interviews and projects that are in "the hopper" so to speak. Mary noted that the ones that Theresa, our videographer is currently working on are an older interview of Henry and Annette Stevens and will be soon working on the new more recent interviews of Charles Thompson and Liz Kirby. Mary had researched the list of photos that were requested, and she found only a few of them. Trussell house is Sawyer house and now belongs to Don Lucas. Some discussion ensued on how to acquire photos and Mary will call Annette to see what she might have.

- **Boston Post Cane Policy**– Liz

Revisions - Liz has not had much time to work on this but offered the following for update of the policy: 1) Need advertising policy such as: search for a new applicant will be posted in two issues of the local newspapers and on the web; 2) there should be a time limit in which a potential recipient responds. Liz will work on this for the next meeting.

W.O.W. BPC feedback: Lindy emailed that she had spoken with Holly Walker about the BPC publicity feedback on WOW, and Holly was very pleased.

- **Search for new Board Members** – *Mary, Judy, Marc*

Anitra Griffin was recommended by Julie for the board. She is not a member, so it was suggested that she be contacted and become a member if she is interested. Fred thought she was a good prospect because of her previous school board experience.

Mary will contact Susan Ware after the 1st of March. Sue's mom died very recently.

Marc spoke with Betsy Forsham, who sits on other boards, so is not interested.

Judy spoke to Liz Fielding who was busy with her other activities.

Mary suggested that she do a MailChimp after March 1 as a follow-up on those who have not paid their 2021 dues and include some text on the need for new board members.

Mary was asked to send out names of new members

- **Reissue Cap's books** – *Judy*

Judy feels that the republished book should have some pertinent photos to go with it.

Liz suggested that there be an index if possible. This was discussed, and if we can get the text into a Word document then an index would not be out of the realm of possibility. Judy will send Mary some cost options to include in these minutes.

- **Scrapbook creation** – *Liz and Julie*

Julie cannot do scrapbook of current events and obituaries right now because of other commitments. We discussed what would be appropriate to include and it was decided that only Wilmot people and events should be collected. It was suggested that everyone start collecting news clips and putting them in a folder until such time as Julie is able to start a scrapbook.

New Business:

- **Action List progress** – Catherine did a great job with the Action Item List last month. She will do one after every meeting and Mary will include it with the minutes.
- **Plan for Memorial Day/Soldiers Monument program –Sat 29 May 2021 at 2 PM**
 - Liz spoke with George West, the commander of our local Legion Post. He said May 29 is open for the legion and they will post colors and do a volley. Dawn Pothier of Sutton who is president of the auxiliary, is also on board.
 - We need a PA system and an electrical source. Marc has a generator.
 - Liz would like live music.
 - She has the back story of Private Lucien and the Uptons from Wilmot Center. We also need to include info on Francis Chase and Billy Buskin.
 - Also the story of the Memorial and how it came about.
 - She would like to put a wreath in the river and at the monument.
 - Contact the Fire Dept. to bring down chairs.
 - Fred has agree to pull a music program together. Nola offered to play her flute. Fred will see if his son Will might do some of the music—patriotic tunes. Perhaps get Jeff Gill as percussionist.
 - Fred will contact Nicole Densmore to bring in children to sing.
 - Liz will contact Alison Mastin to find out if we can get a list of students to try to get them involved.
 - Mary will put a physical program together.
 - Brian McCarthy should be contacted so the boy scouts can take part.

Liz asked everyone to be thinking of ideas. She would like to get a committee together.

Other Business:

- Ann Davis sent a letter to Liz about protecting LCHIP historical grants for small organizations in the state. Liz sent a copy of Ann's letter to the Ways and Means committee under her signature as representing the Wilmot Historical Committee.
- Judy offered to get in touch with Taryn Johnson at Mascoma Bank about a grant for republishing of Cap Levarn's book. Fred said to be sure to mention that Mrs. O is part of our group.
- Acquisitions – Janet Howe has only a few things in her barn. She would be glad to send a list. The Acquisitions Committee will meet every other month for now. March 10 is the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1 p.m.

WHS CURRENT ACTION ITEM LIST – February 2021

- **Mary** per Theresa Chamberlain's request, has found some pictures for use in the Stevens video. We could use some more photos of the mentioned farms and as Theresa has requested both older and newer pictures, Mary will ask Annette where she and Henry had previously lived.
- **Judy** will continue her research into the process for reissuing Cap LeVarn's book, including adding additional photos and an index.
- **Judy** will talk with Taryn Johnson at Mascoma Bank concerning the possibility of procuring grant money to help finance the book project.
- **Liz** is currently revising the existing Boston Post Cane Policy which will include updated guidelines for communicating our quest for a new recipient if and when the need arises, specifying the length of time allowed for a prospective BPC recipient to decide whether or not he or she would like the honor of being the cane recipient and a new policy for if and when the circumstance occurs that the oldest person refuses the cane.
- **Mary** in our continued quest for new board members (and new Treasurer), will speak with Sue Ware after March 1. Also if March she will be sending a Mailchimp out to the membership to remind about dues payment and if still needed at that time can inquire if anyone is interested in joining the Board.
- We'll ask **Julie** to talk with Annitra Griffin about joining the WHS and then we can approach her about joining the board and the Treasurer position.
- **Mary** will send a list of the recent new members for us to peruse for a potential Treasurer.
- **Julie** has agreed to be the official WHS scrapbooker though is unable to start actively doing that at this time. **All of us** will be on the lookout for Wilmot related news items to save in a folder for Julie.
- **We all** should also be collecting obituaries of people who have contributed to Wilmot's history.
- **We** are continuing our planning for the concurrent Memorial Day Ceremony and the slightly belated celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Wilmot's Veterans Memorial. We will further organize committees perhaps at our next meeting.
- **Liz** will confer with Allison Mastin about possibly involving Wilmot students as participants and/or observers in the proceedings. Liz will also speak with Brian McCarthy about involving the Boy Scouts and also see if Nicole Densmore would be interested in being involved.
- **Fred** has graciously accepted the nomination to be the Musical Program Organizer. Nola has offered to play her flute, Fred will ask Will Ogmundson if he would like to participate, we could ask Jeff Gill if he might be interested and Nicole Densmore has said yes to students joining the lineup.
- **All** remember to pay WHS 2021 dues.