

Wilmot Historical Society – regular meeting – February 10, 2022

5:10 p.m. Wilmot Town Offices

Present: Liz Kirby, Catherine Stearns, Marc Davis, Fred Ogmundsen, Heather Mather, Mary Fanelli, Bill Chaisson, and Bruce Sanborn

Minutes

Minutes were amended to indicate (1) they are those of November 2021 and (2) that Jim Perkins is associated with the Town of New London, not Proctor Academy. Catherine made a motion to accept them as amended. Seconded by Heather. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Mascoma Bank	\$,5000.00
Ledyard Ckng	697.89
Ledyard MM	39,217.16
Total:	44913.38

Encumbered: (\$1,942.56 Mem. fnd; 10K town hall; \$21,153 bldg fnd; grants \$750 + \$4500; pavers \$200)
Total \$38,545.56

We have 62 new members, who have contributed \$970 in donations and memberships.

OLD BUSINESS

Acquisitions Committee

Marc has an idea for a grant proposal: he would like to get more of Walter Walker's glass plates and his 35 mm slides and have them scanned or photographed. The Barnard Foundation offers grants for getting materials like these scanned. Marc mentioned that Bradley Palmer took photographs of slides.

Catherine said that Gail Matthews, who wrote for *Kearsarge Magazine* for many years and also had a television show, is giving away her recordings of interviews.

Audio Transcriptions

Theresa is working on four Thompson interview videos.

Casper LeVarn book reprint

Mary has contacted Howard Hoke of Echo Communications in New London about printing copies of the book document, which is ready but could not be uploaded to self-publishing websites.

Old Town Records

Heather looked into accessing digital version of Wilmot genealogy records from the Church of Latter-day Saints, and she found that they were available.

Post Office Window

Nicely done by Catherine and Judy.

Memorial Committee

Liz reported that Florence Gove has purchased two pavers for people who are not yet represented at the Soldiers Monument: Channing Sawyer and Octavia Stearns. These are 12" x 12" and cost \$100 each. Bruce Sanborn was asked to join the committee, and he agreed to do so.

Technology

Per Lindy Heim: link from town website to WHS site goes to outdated version. [This is a cache problem on her end.]

Kearsarge link to map is not working and charter member link needs to be more prominent.

Storage

Two movable shelves have been added to the storage unit.

NEW BUSINESS

First Week of May Program

Fred proposed programs from NH Humanities called "Taken By Storm" about the hurricane of 1938 and "Heroes and Homecomings" about Norman Rockwell's art related to World War II.

Mary suggested selecting "Taken By Storm" because of the tie-in to the proposed raising of the town hall (which has been damaged by repeated flooding of Kimpton Brook).

Those present volunteered Judy to engage with NH Humanities re: the booking the program.

It was planned for a Sunday afternoon in May.

Public Relations

There would be no second informational meeting before town meeting about the town hall renovation. WHS is working with Jeff Gill.

Genealogy Committee

The committee has had its second meeting and has put together a mission statement. Carolyn Rayno will join the committee. The pressing question is "how does the public get access to genealogical information?" The answer at this time: WHS volunteers will have resources organized in order to direct inquiries.

Fundraising

None is said to be needed right now. WHS is flush. Encumbrances are listed in old minutes.

Building

Where to move the WHS collections and office is an open question. Mary suggested putting a modular building at 14 North Wilmot (vacant lot that was site of Brown/Brady house). Fred suggested that it should be an authentic-looking building in a 19th century style.

ADJOURN

Mary made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marc. All were in favor.

Next meeting March 17