

Wilmot Historical Society  
November 10, 2022  
Minutes

Liz Kirby called the meeting to order at 5:15

Also in attendance were Bruce Sanborn, Catherine Stearns, Mary Fanelli, Marc Davis, and committee member Karen Hanson.

We did not have a quorum so no motions were made during the meeting and no officers were elected.

**Minutes**

October 13 minutes were not available. Annual Meeting minutes from October 30 were corrected and will be put on line as a draft with committee reports.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mascoma \$0 – Account closed. Money transferred to Ledyard

Ledyard Checking - \$6,403.75

Ledyard MM - \$38,231.75

Encumbered \$32,968 (Vet Memorial: \$1815; Bldg Fund: \$21,153; Town Hall: \$10,000)

Available - \$11,667.50

Membership for 2022 = 132

Total donations from membership = \$2190

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**VCR Tapes from Gail Matthews** – Catherine

Gail has more tapes but has not given to Catherine yet. When she does, she and Liz will watch them and decide what, if any, should be converted to CDs and given to StoryCatcher to make into a video.

**Oral Histories** – Mary

The last of the cassettes are being transcribed by Kim White. Mary said she will try to get the transcriptions in final form during the winter.

**Acquisitions Committee** – Catherine

Barbara Faughnan, who is related to the local Bunkers, gave a history of the Bunker family to the WHS. The original Bunker House across from the cemetery on Bunker Hill Road was purchased by the Langley family and is still owned by that family today.

**Genealogy Committee** – Karen Hanson

Karen has put together a packet for visitors to the history room that will help them with their genealogical research. It is sort of a “How To.” This packet will include forms/charts and information about where to go on line to do research. Next meeting of this committee December 6 at 6:30 PM.

**Veterans Memorial Committee** – Liz

Three new pavers are ready to be installed. These pavers are thinner than those we have been using. Liz and Bruce will install them with an appropriate filler of stone dust or sand.

### **Printer/scanner Research – Bruce**

Because the Epson large format printer scanner in the history room will not print any more, Bruce offered to research a purchase of another one. This one should be laser. He found separate scanners and printers, but not a large format all-in-one. He will continue his research.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Annual Meeting Review – Liz**

Liz asked how everyone thought the meeting and program went. It was estimated that we had about 50-60 people in attendance. The event started with refreshments at 12:30; business meeting at 1 p.m.; a break for more refreshments, and then the program at 1:30. It was agreed that this went well and that we should have the same order for next year's meeting.

#### **Activities**

- Liz attended a different program by Dr. Goodby in Boscawen.
- Bruce and Liz and Catherine on Zoom attended a program in Newport on "Finding Cemeteries" sponsored by Newport Archives. One of the speakers Barbara Chalmers, head of archives in Sunapee who had authored many books. Another was Jim Perkins, New London archivist. Liz asked Barbara if she would speak at one of our meetings, and she said she would.
- Catherine took a tour of Donald Hall and Jane Kenyon's home sponsored by the Wilmot Garden Club. She said that Mary Lyn Ray was most eager to show them the whole house and had shared with them many memories of her own when Don and Jane occupied the house.
- Liz and Catherine attended a Wilmot Library program. The speaker was the author of "Pauper Auctions," a book about how the labors of the poor in New England were auctioned off. Liz and Catherine provided a display of record books from the Wilmot poor farm and brought other artifacts from that time period.
- While in Newport, Bruce was given a tour of the So. Cong. Church clock tower by archivist Jim Perkins. Bruce took several photos of the workings of the clock and the view of Newport from the tower.

#### **Budget - Mary**

Mary suggested that the society develop a budget for 2023. She needs some support for web work and has not found Paul Carnevale, Jr. to be very responsive to requests for help.

#### **New Home for WHS - Mary**

There have been several attempts to find the WHS a new home over the past couple of years. The town has mentioned that they could use the space that we now occupy. Some conversation was held about the needs of the town and the needs of the historical society. It was decided that these two topics (budget and building) should be the main discussion at the **December 8 meeting**.

Liz also set the January meeting for **January 12**.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Fanelli (for Bill Chaisson)