

Wilmot Historical Society Minutes
Wilmot Town Office
September 14, 2023

Liz Kirby called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

In attendance were: Heather Mather, Catherine Stearns, Mary Fanelli, Carolyn Rayno, Bruce Sanborn, and guest Keith Barrett.

Minutes from 10 August 2023. Accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report - Accepted (See attached.)

Mary said she would write Sara Timberlake a thank you note for her donation toward the mac and cheese for the bandstand supper.

Fundraising for Building Fund

Keith Barrett, major gifts fundraiser for Proctor Academy, addressed the board and gave them some ideas of how to go about raising money for the new WHS home. He stressed identifying major gift donors first and suggested that we prepare a list of people who would contribute the bulk of the funds needed.

The committee needs to have a definite plan with a dollar figure and a budget. We also need a timeline.

- Once a plan is out together we need a brochure. Talk about Pat Baker's donation.
- Need Lead donors- give them flexibility. Perhaps make a commitment for the next 5 years if need be. Letter of Intent for long term donors
- Create foundation with early big donors. One on one.
- Keith will come to a donor visit to show how to make the ask
- Then do a matching grant with big donors. Go to commercial people.
- In kind donations
- Case statement: Why do we need this building. Make sure they know we are a non-profit.
- Need to have a design and attach a cost to it.
- Need an annual fund. Endowment for maintenance.

Old Business/Action Item List

- Cap's Book – info inserts – Mary - done She will write to Mascoma to let them know project is done and offer a book.
- Oral Histories, Barnard Grant – Money was received to cover the last of the interviews.
- Donations in Memory of Walter Walker – Mary sent list to Holly and mentioned that the Historical Society has acknowledged every gift.
- Acquisitions Committee – Catherine reported that she received a footwarmer from Clayton Nowell's estate.
- Also, Howard Nowell's police badge was given to Chief Duncan Domey by Howard's son Philip. We have received the badge from chief Domey as a donation to the WHS along with a large black and white photo of Howard in uniform given by the family.

- Evelyn Jones has indicated her intention to give us a Revolutionary war gun that was once owned by John K. Stearns (father of Octavia “Tavey” Stearns) and probably originated from his namesake and great grandfather John Stearns, who entered the Revolutionary war at the age of 16.
- Bandstand Supper August 12th 2023 –Report is in treasurer’s report for this month.
- History Room Report – Catherine
We’ve had some busy Saturdays in the History Room this summer with usually 12 to 20 visitors a day. We have had a lot of good conversations which included a visit from a couple of the docents from the Grafton Historical Society. When we mentioned to them how much we enjoyed the visit to their museum and how impressed we were with their displays, they told us that even though the museum is impressive, they don’t have the ability to help people research their homes and families like we do nor do they have the organized notebooks of pictures and history that we have on our shelves and on the office computer. They also have very few members and were quite impressed with our numbers. We sent them off with a newsletter. I guess we are little but we are mighty.
- The History Room is open 9 – 12 Sats through Sept 30th. Good attendance most weeks between 12 & 20 every week. Julie has offered to be a docent.
- Outlines of property plans for WHS new home at 14 N Wilmot Rd. Mary is waiting for Shub (pronounced Shoob) Sanyal to finish a couple of design options. When she has them she will call a building committee meeting.

New Business

- Annual Meeting – Carolyn Rayno reported that Steve Taylor will do the program on “Bringing Electricity to NH” Oct 29 or Nov 5. Carolyn will contact NH Humanities. Mary will check on town hall or WCA.
- By-Laws Revision and Update – 1. Electronic board business; 2. BOD Attendance – Mary will research and present at next meeting.
- Meeting with Wilmot Planning Board 9/21/2003 – push to Oct. Liz?
- Business plan needed? – part fundraising.
- Building Committee/Construction Account – Heather will look into a new acct.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING – 12 October 2023 at 5 PM @ WTO

ADJOURNMENT 7:10

Genealogy Committee – Oct 5, 6:30 PM @ WHS room

**WHS Treasurer's Report - September 2023
(Fiscal Year Month 11)**

Income	
Dues	\$ 475.00
Donations	\$ 5,315.00
Interest	\$ 60.33
Total Income:	\$ 5,850.33

Expenses	
Oral Histories	\$ 4,900.00
Dues/Fees	\$ 2,386.00
Print/Advertising	\$ 464.00
Equipment	\$ 200.00
Postage	\$ 190.19
Digitizing	\$ 45.00
Fundraising	\$ 177.44
Supplies	\$ 266.70
Misc.	\$ 483.30
Total Expenses:	\$ 9,112.63

Net Gain/Loss	\$ (3,262.30)
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Total Cash Assets

Total Cash Assets	\$ 40,971.79
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Encumbrances

Restricted	Veteran's Memorial	\$ 1,942.56
Restricted	Building Fund	\$ 21,153.00
Restricted	Town Hall Project	\$ 10,000.00
Restricted	Mascoma Book Grant	\$ -
Total Encumbered Cash:		\$ 33,095.56
Total Unencumbered Cash:		\$ 7,876.23

Bank Accounts

Operating Checking	\$ 3,355.12
Money Market	\$ 4,521.11
6-Month CDs (Mature in Oct.)	\$ 33,095.56
Total in Bank Accounts	\$ 40,971.79

Prepared 9/10/23

Included in Donations Amount:		# of Donors
Gifts in Honor of Walter Walker	\$ 795.00	11
Bandstand Supper Income	\$ 749.00	67+

Bandstand Supper Expenses	\$ 176.84
Bandstand Supper Net Profit	\$ 572.16

Bandstand Supper Notes:

Expenses included advertising (\$76.84) and Refinery mac cheese purchase (\$100.00)

Total mac cheese cost \$195.30. (\$95.30 donated by Sara Timberlake)

67 meals sold, plus various baked goods

Suggested donation for meal was \$10

Meals included: Mac cheese, coleslaw, desserts, watermelon, drink