

Wilmot Historical Society Minutes  
Wilmot Town Office  
August 10, 2023

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

Present were board members Marc Davis, Catherine Stearns, Carolyn Rayno, Bruce Sanborn, and Mary Fanelli. Also present was Sara Timberlake.

Announcement: John Morse died Sunday. His service will be held at 12:30 on August 13 at St. Andrews Church followed by a reception at the Wilmot Town Hall.

**Minutes:** Revised minutes from July 13, 2023 were accepted as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Total cash assets are 39,475.79 (See attached)

### **OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM LIST**

#### **Cap LeVarn Book**

Mary brought in two copies of the finished LeVarn book. The cover is quite nice although the printing is still light. Bill Chaisson, who headed up the project, said he was not able to get a darker font. Marc picked up the fact that we did not include a "credits" page. Mary will ask Bill to add this to the final copy. Also to be included are: 1) the year of the original edition 1957; 2) the date of this revision; 3) mention that this edition includes an index that was not present in the original; and, 4) if possible, take the final page that has Cap's message to the reader and put it in the front of the book.

Mary made a motion to order 30 copies of the book to bring in house. (The book will be available to anyone on Amazon for \$15.) Since Bill has borne all expenses connected with the editing and initial purchase, she included in her motion that the \$750 Mascoma grant money, that is currently encumbered in our checking account, be paid to Bill to cover the purchase of the 30 copies, and the balance to go to Bill for his many hours spent in getting the book ready for publication.

#### **Acquisitions Committee – Catherine**

- Dorothy Prats gave us an original painting of her father Earle Chandler's barn by Myrt Newcomb.
- Betsy Forsham gave us Etta Richards autograph books and also donated a photo of Fred Goodhue and family at the Methodist camp. She also gave us a bound copy of all Town reports from 1870 – 1900. We will ask Joy Donohue to fix the binding.

#### **Genealogy Committee – Carolyn**

The committee met Aug 3 here at town office. Luan Clark stopped by and was pleased with the info she received from the committee.

#### **Bandstand Supper August 12<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Mary & Sara**

- We decided to charge a flat \$10 for the whole meal, which will include mac & cheese, coleslaw, a dessert, lemonade, and watermelon.
- Liz bought the paper goods and Mary and Catherine will provide stainless forks.

#### **Andover Old Time Fair – Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Catherine**

- Catherine and Liz displayed various items from Wilmot, which visitors found very interesting including an old time horse collar complete with hames, a drill and chisel for post and beam work

once owned by the Goodhue's, jars of antique marbles found in a Wilmot Barn and a miniature model of a snow roller built by Irving Dodge

- 25 people signed into the guest book.
- Some took genealogy packets.
- Three books were sold.

Andover provided a space and a table under their large tent.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Mary asked that we send a letter to the BOS regarding the Knotweed at 14 N. Wilmot Road. The issue of eradication has been ongoing since 2019.
- Visits to nearby Historical Societies: Liz reported that Janet and Jon Schwartz went to the new Berlin Historical Society in Berlin, NH. They were very impressed with the space. Liz wants a field trip so that we can get some ideas for our building committee. She will send out an email.
- Need docents for the History Room, which is open 9am – 12noon every Saturday through Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Bruce Sanborn and four other WHS members met with the BOS on August 26. (See excerpt from BOS minutes at end of these minutes.)
- Mary said she had given a local architect/designer, Shubhankar (Shub) Sanyal several pieces of information and photos and asked him to work on a plan for 14 N. Wilmot road that would include a space for the building and parking.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- Donations in Memory of Walter Walker - \$475.00 to date

ADJOURNMENT – 7 pm

Next meeting will take place at the town office on 14 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 5 PM

Genealogy Committee will meet on 31 August 2023, 6:30 PM @ WHS room

Excerpt from Aug 26 BOS meeting.

*Bruce Sanborn, 115 Twist Hill Road spoke on behalf of the WHS. He shared the WHS's need for more space. The organization is seeking to pursue different opportunities. The WHS would like to know if the town offices at 9 Kearsarge Valley Road would be available in the next three to five years as it would be an ideal location for the historical society. The WHS would like to start a dialog about the future of the town and its facilities. The WHS would like to have a larger space and permanent home in three to five years. The WHS would like there to be a discussion about future uses of properties like 14 North Wilmot Road. Might there be an option for the WHS to that that space? The WHS also posed the third option might be another town owned parcel that they might not be aware of.*

*Catherine Stearns, 178 Stearns Road and Vice President of WHS, noted there are lots of new people moving to town, and many are looking for historical information about their homes, WHS is a great resource for this information.*

*Elizabeth Kirby, 172 Cross Hill Road and President of WHS - regarding the timeframe in which they would like to have a permanent location with more space times possibly with the Wilmot highway garage loan being paid off in 2026 and maybe a town office complex be considered at that time.*

*Chairman Schamberg encouraged the WHS to put together more detailed information about their ideas. Selectboard member Hart noted there weren't any plans to move the town offices in the works, so the WHS might want to pursue other options. She noted there might be a structure that could be moved to a location like the 14 North Wilmot Road property.*

*The Selectboard thanked Sanborn for his presentation and for bringing the issue to the board.*

<b>WHS Treasurer's Report - August 2023 (Fiscal Year Month 10)</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Dues	\$ 465.00
Donations	\$ 3,746.00
Books	\$ 23.00
Interest	\$ 54.61
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 4,288.61</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Oral Histories	\$ 4,900.00
Dues/Fees	\$ 2,386.00
Print/Advertising	\$ 502.72
Equipment	\$ 200.00
Postage	\$ 190.19
Digitizing	\$ 45.00
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 8,223.91</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss</b>	<b>\$ (3,935.30)</b>
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>	
	\$ 39,475.79
<b>Encumbrances</b>	
Restricted Veteran's Memorial	\$ 1,942.56
Restricted Building Fund	\$ 21,153.00
Restricted Town Hall Project	\$ 10,000.00
Restricted Mascoma Book Grant	\$ 750.00
<b>Total Encumbered Cash:</b>	<b>\$ 33,845.56</b>
<b>Total Unencumbered Cash:</b>	<b>\$ 5,630.23</b>
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
Operating Checking	\$ 1,864.84
Money Market	\$ 4,515.39
6-Month CDs	\$ 33,095.56
<b>Total in Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 39,475.79</b>

Restricted  
Restricted  
Restricted  
Restricted

Prepared 8/2/23