

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting for January 3, 2011
John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

Denny Lentz called the business meeting to order with 42 people in attendance. He welcomed everyone including guests.

Secretary's Report In the absence of the secretary Judith Hilt read the minutes of the December meeting. They were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report Julie Johnson read the Treasurer's report showing debits for the electric bill, Grange rental and a correspondence expense with credits for dues, products sales and Helen Goransson's book sales giving a balance of \$3,088.57 in the checking account. There was an interest credit in the savings account giving a current balance of \$14,556.17. Julie's report was approved.

Committee Chair Reports

Membership Janet Saurman said that it is time to renew our memberships for 2011. The annual dues are \$5 and can be paid now to Janet. She also has a list of those who are lifetime members.

Program Carol had nothing new to report. Her program listing for 2011 will be available at the February meeting. She has a couple open months. If anyone has any suggestions please let Carol know.

Collections Julie reported that she just received a crate full of 1898-1910 Eliot Reports from Paul Rousseau.

Denny mentioned that the society is looking to find something to store maps in for our collection perhaps something like an engineer's cabinet. We are very interested if anyone comes across something like this.

Fund Raising Carol had nothing new to report, but she did ask that members bring a wedding picture of themselves or family members to the next meeting.

Building Planning Committee Zip Zamarchi reported that the next meeting of his committee would be held January 10th at Zip's house.

Old Business

Denny said that Connie Weeks had spoken at a recent meeting about the “Wild York River Project” and their plans for a study of the river. Denny created a letter to give the Historical Society’s support for the project. Connie has asked that people sign up on a sheet at the back of the room if they would be willing to help.

Janet suggested that we add map storage on our wish list for our website.

New Business

Denny asked Paul Rousseau to re-explain his idea about the historical society creating a Certificate of Appreciation presented to owners of buildings that have been restored back to their original condition. It was suggested that an investigation be done to see if this had been done in the past. There was a discussion about what would be the criteria for presenting this certificate. Denny asked for a show of hands to see if we should go forward with it. He then asked Paul Rousseau if he would be willing to head up that committee. Paul said he would serve on it.

Denny then brought up the idea that there be a committee to pursue items to buy for our collection as in the case of the #8 Schoolhouse ledger. Should there be an amount set up to reimburse members who come up with a find for the group? It was decided that there needs to be a committee to determine what to purchase for the collection and how much we are willing to pay for it. It was agreed that Rosanne Junkins and Eric Christian should be on that committee. There also was a vote to reimburse Roseanne, Eric and Lee Downer for their eBay purchase of the very historic #8 Schoolhouse Ledger, which they purchased for \$132.00 and donated to the Historical Society. The group decided to reimburse them.

Denny again thanked the nominating committee for their hard work. He also thanked Helen Goransson for her work on the Bicentennial DVD with Mike Comeau (video photographer) and for helping us to organize the night’s program. Denny also thanked Paul & Julie Johnson for the nights refreshments.

He then introduced program chairman, Carol Zamarchi. Carol said that because Helen had worked with the video photographer she would ask Helen to come forward. Helen then introduced Mike Comeau who photographed Eliot’s Bicentennial and it’s many varied activities over the course of a whole week. Helen said that Mike memorialized our Bicentennial week, which she said was a daunting task. She said he did a great job and managed to be available at all the events. The

historical society members then had the opportunity to relive the wide array of events that took place during the Bicentennial week, August 7-14, 2010, as Mike showed his video.

Denny said that a copy of the Bicentennial DVD is available for \$15 and one can sign up for it at the back of the room or they can be purchased at the town hall. The proceeds go to the Bicentennial Committee.

Refreshments were then served by Julie & Paul Johnson.

Respectfully Submitted
Dorothy Hansen, Secretary

(I was able to do these minutes thanks to a tape recorder and notes taken by Judith Hilt.)