

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting – October 6, 2014

John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME

President Rosanne Adams called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. There were 28 people in attendance. She announced that we now have a new audio-visual system with multiple microphones.

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the meeting of September 8th were read and approved, with one correction (middle school corrected to high school).

Treasurer's Report – The balance in the savings account as of 9/30/14 was \$23,254.76, with earned interest of \$1.93 and the donation from Kennebunk Savings Bank of \$2,310 thanks to the annual community balloting. The balance in the certificate of deposit was \$10,781.19, with interest of \$3.78. The checking account balance was \$9,090.29 after debits for rent, electricity, the audio-visual system, and cemetery materials, and credits for dues and Eliot Festival Day earnings. The report was approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no reports from Membership, Publicity, Education, Website and Grants.

Correspondence - Julie Johnson sent a thank you note to Ruth Vetter for the photos she sent us

Collections – Julie reported that we received photos from Ruth Vetter including Festival Day and other old Eliot pictures. She mentioned the possibility of taking over the historic photo display at the Post Office. There was some discussion as to who had the key to the display and whom to approach about this.

Building – Paul Johnson thanked Cindy Lentz for the Halloween-themed decorations at the No. 8 Schoolhouse. He also reported that Joel Moulton is giving some gravel for the driveway of the Grange.

Programs – Rosanne announced that the next meeting will feature Tad Emerson Baker of Salem State College who will discuss his works “The Storm of Witchcraft – The Salem Trials and the American Experience” and “The Devil of Great Island – Witchcraft and Conflict in Early New England” which is about events in New Castle, NH.

Fundraising – Cindy Lentz observed that we have great cooks which helped us earn \$275 at Eliot Festival Day. We sold \$65 in books and the rest came from food sales.

We will also have a booth at the Xmas Fair at Marshwood High School the first Saturday in December, so be prepared to bake and we will also have nice things to sell.

Old Business – Cindy Lentz said that weather may have been gloomy and chilly as the boat left, but the mail boat ride in Portland was wonderful. It was nice to talk with people on the islands, good food, porpoises to view, and interesting information.

New Business - Representative Roberta Beavers described a small ceremony she recently organized at the Town Hall to honor Barbara Fernald, Walter Hoyt, Viola Jasper and Edward Vetter where she read memorial sentiments from the State House. There were additional proclamations honoring Dan Blanchette on his retirement as town administrator, and for those who have provided artistic contributions to the town, which included Peter Randall – publisher and photographer, and artists Toni Schultz and Justin Kirchoff. Bobbi expressed her appreciation for all the people of the town who do so much for Eliot. She also announced a forum at the Grange on October 20th at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Carol Zamarchi noted that there were some new faces in the room and welcomed all the newcomers to the meeting.

Eric Christian reported that Mark Spiezio, whose son is a boy scout, is concerned about the Frost Garrison where the landscaping and brush has become overgrown at both the home and the garrison. The owners cannot keep up with it and Mark and Eric and their sons planned to have a work party to spruce up the property, and he invited others to help. This was to take place the next Saturday, and, if not, sometime in November. Folks were instructed to bring their own equipment and tools. The EHS should help preserve these historic properties before they are lost due to neglect.

Carol Zamarchi received from a man at Eliot Festival Day a collection of photos from past Eliot Festival Days. She asked people to help identify them and she will give them to Julie for the collection.

Rosanne thanked Robert Fisher (and herself) for the evening's refreshments, which had a Halloween theme and were delicious.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Due to a cancellation by the planned presenter, Rosanne brought a video of the 10th annual Eliot Antique Tractor Fair which we viewed with the new audio-visual equipment. In its first year, this event had only 27 tractors and engines, but has grown

every year since then. This is a fine example of the preservation of the farming way of life and the interest in the public in seeing and experiencing this.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Goransson - Secretary