

Newbury Historical Society
Minutes
September 12 2013

Board members present: Barbara Steward, Claire Vannatta, Gay Sheary, Bill Weiler, Margie Weiler, and Paula Falkowski

Members present: Marty Sheary

Visitor present: Susan Warren, Executive Director, The Fells

Susan has been visiting volunteer groups in Newbury to promote cooperation among the groups. Claire suggested that the Fells host an activity during the afternoon of Old Home Day when the other activities are primarily for children.

Barbara called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Minutes of 5/9/2013 were accepted. All in favor.

Claire gave the Treasurer's report. The current Conservation Fund balance remains \$974.20, the Life Member Fund balance \$5,500.00, and the operating fund is \$15,806.15. Margie had concern that the report format does clearly reflect both beginning and ending balances since the last report. After some discussion, Claire said that she would make some changes. Claire has noticed that some membership flyers show an incorrect amount for family memberships, \$25 instead of \$20. Barbara said she would make new ones. Bill asked that the request for Artifact donation be removed and that "Detailed History of Newbury" be changed to "History Committee,"

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership: The total so far is 49 plus the life members. It was agreed to include an insert in the next newsletter for those who have not renewed.

Archives: Bill recently helped a Gillingham family descendant locate her family "homestead" which include his house as the only one still standing. The other 2 sites have been abandoned.

Annual Meeting Evaluation: The meeting was very well attended and Steve Taylor's talk was well received. A number of books were sold by Margie and Claire and a few new members joined. The talk was recorded. Barbara asked for suggestions for a speaker for next year by the November meeting. All agreed to consider another speaker from the Humanities Council and to come to the next meeting with suggestions from their web site..

Program Committee & Additional Programs: This was postponed until next year.

History Committee: Bill reported that indexing is proceeding on volumes for which the indexes are not on line. Clayton Platt, who surveyed the South Newbury buildings, attended a meeting to explain his methods.

South Newbury Buildings: Paula went to a Grange meeting with Dick Wright and Dennis Pavlicek. Jim Powell told her that painting was proceeding on the Grange Hall and that the Town Hall floor was reinforced. Bill said that they did not also level the floor. A conservator visited the buildings and thought

that one of the painted curtains is worth conserving and that the 'ears' are rare and in good condition – they should be placed in their proper position on the stage to prevent further deterioration.

House Markers: Gay reported they have one potential new application. She thought we need a flyer; Margie said she would try to make one.

Newsletter Fall Edition: A few potential topics were discussed, including Deane's oral history with Judy Laporte, the Gillingham homestead (Bill), the Town Hall conservator's report (Barbara), Clayton Platt's survey report.

PALS Collaboration: It was agreed to continue if the collaboration does.

Program Committee: A fall program had been discussed but it was decided not to do one.

Web Site: Margie had nothing new.

Old Home Day Evaluation: Bill said that the new canopy helped define our space, invite people in to see the posters and the sales table. A number of books were sold by Margie and a few new members joined. Margie agreed to turn over to Claire the box of books for sale so she can handle both the sales and the money.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: Treasurer (Claire) and Secretary (Margie). The President and Vice-President elections were tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Margie Weiler, Secretary

MEETING DATES:

Board Meetings:

Nov 14

Jan 9