

**Newbury Historical Society**  
**Minutes**  
**January 9 2014**

**Board members present:** Barbara Steward, Claire Vannatta, Gay Sheary, Bill Weiler, Margie Weiler, Mary Thayer, Deane Geddes, Ashley Geddes and Paula Falkowski

**Members present:** Marty Sheary

Barbara called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The Minutes of 11/14/2013 were accepted with three corrections: the wording of the report on the new CD, the request for Bill and Deane to meet with State officials regarding the Sunapee School House, and adding the Board's agreement to sponsor the CMH summer series.

**Treasurer's Report:** Claire reported that the current Conservation Fund balance remains \$974.20, the Life Member Fund balance has been reduced to \$5,100.00, and the operating fund is now \$16,871.22. All liked the new format of the report. The Life Member fund was reduced by \$300 as agreed at the last meeting, but still needs to be reduced by another \$100 because of the death of Virginia Hancock.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Membership:** Claire reported that the June and November mailings inserted in the Newsletters returned a total of 78 memberships and donations totaling \$695.

**Archives:** Bill has obtained 3 filing cabinets to for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Sherman Hall, to make storage available to the Lake Todd Village District and the Center Meeting House and possibly other Newbury nonprofit organizations which have no office space. He also presented an analysis of the King's Daughters presentation quilt identifying the residences of most of the families listed, based on census information. More than half were not from Newbury.

**Annual Meeting Planning:** June 29 was selected as the final date. Gay has arranged for a speaker from the Council for Humanities list: Adair Mulligan who will talk on "The Secrets of Cellar Holes."

**History Committee:** Deane reported that the group has been making good use of the 1823 – 1860 deed indexes that Paula transcribed, so that fewer trips to Concord are needed. Craig MacKenzie has been able to trace the property he is researching back to the original Lot 45 which included most South Newbury Village. Chuck Crickman has obtained an article from Lyme on how to research and mark cellar holes. The group has found an article on the fire at the Excelsior Mill which was located just off Route 103.

**South Newbury Buildings:** Paula attended the Budget Committee meeting on Dec. 16. They asked for more specific uses of the buildings to justify more than maintenance.

**House Markers:** Gay had no new applications.

**Newsletter:** Barbara has received favorable comments on the last newsletter. It was agreed that the next one will be in the spring and include a membership flyer and a call to the Annual Meeting. Claire suggested an article on the South Newbury buildings and their possible usefulness as meeting space since the Vets Hall has been heavily used and has a smaller meeting room than the Town Hall.

**Sunapee School House:** Bill reported that he and Deane met with representatives from DRED a few weeks ago. They have been gathering support for the demolition of the school house which included hiring a consultant to assess the historical value, and involving the Historical Society. Bill and Deane agreed that the building was beyond saving. DRED offered to clean up the site after the demolition and erect a memorial plaque. They also asked for a letter of support from the board. The Board voted to have Bill write a letter to them saying that we have no objection to the demolition of the building.

**Web Site:** Margie has been adding Board minutes and newsletters and updating the What's New announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Margie Weiler, Secretary

**MEETING DATES:**

**Board Meetings:**

**March 13**

**May 8**