

**Newbury Historical Society**  
**Minutes**  
**September 11 2014**

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

**Members present:** Marty Sheary

Deane called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM, as Vice President since the President, Barbara Steward, had resigned.

**Election of Officers:** The following officers were nominated and elected:

President: Bill Weiler

Vice President: Deane Geddes

Treasurer: Claire Vannatta

Secretary: Margie Weiler

**Board Vacancy:** Bill accepted the presidency reluctantly and asked the Board to help find a new member who would eventually take over as President. He took over as chair of the meeting. There were several suggestions for people to approach to join the Board.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of 5/8/2013 were accepted. Margie thanked Paula for recording them in her absence. There were no issues with the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, which will be offered for approval at the next Annual Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Claire reported that the current Conservation Fund balance remains \$974.20, the Life Member Fund balance is now \$5,200.00, and the operating fund is now \$17,690.97. The Life Member fund was increased by \$300 because a new Life Member has joined. The membership total is now 102 and 39 have not renewed for the current year. The Board supported sending reminders including envelopes with the Society's address.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Archives:** Bill reported that Mary Cogswell from Warner has donated 4 original photographs of the Cogswell house in Newbury harbor, and copies of interior photographs as well. She promised an essay about the house, which was torn down by the family. Deane noted that the Cogswell property was owned at one time by the Croteau family. Bill also asked and received from the Board authorization to get digitized copies of a set of large railroad maps which he has purchased from DOT. He also provided research for the Civil War monument in South Newbury which was made by Ralph Gilbreath. He reported that there is an ongoing project at the Richards Library in Newport to digitize the microfilmed Argus newspapers; they want to include Optical Character Recognition to make an index but this needs new microfilm copies which Bill has offered to pay for. They will need a grant for the OCR. He noted that the Kearsarge Independent has already been digitized by the Warner Historical Society.

**Annual Meeting Planning:** Tabled until November.

**History Committee:** Deane said that the group's deed research is about done since the earliest identifiable deeds have been located for each property. Next is planning the walking tour. Other subjects the group is interested in researching include old roads, cellar holes, mills, stone walls, cattle passes and

abutters, and the Mark Shultis farm. Another area of interest is the superintendents' reports on the old school houses. The current cane holder, Bill Schroeder, is now in a nursing home. The family wants to return the cane to ensure that it does not get lost.

**South Newbury Buildings:** Paula said that the town is working on the windows. Claire suggested that a Newbury Historical Society sign be placed on the building. She and Paula will talk with Dennis about this.

**House Markers:** Gay has a completed and approved an application from Chris and Gary Daniels and Deane has given blank sign forms to Craig McKenzie for him to make a sign.

**October Program:** Gay said that the speaker needs a podium, digital projector and a table. Deane found the podium and projector are in the closet in the Town Office Building meeting room. Ashley will handle the publicity including a flyer and asking the police to put the event on their sign. The refreshments will be cider and donuts.

**Newsletter:** There was a discussion of how to continue to produce newsletters without Barbara. Ashley and Bill can continue writing articles, and Margie is willing to try to use Publisher.

**Sunapee School House:** Bill said there has been no activity.

**Web Site:** Margie continues to maintain the web site.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**South Newbury Buildings Registration:** Bill said that typical accepted applications are written in a professional style including one done recently by a professional for DRED for the Sunapee School house, who gave Bill a list of vendors. The Board supported Bill's suggestion that he generate a Request for Proposal for our application and send it to these vendors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Margie Weiler, Secretary

#### **MEETING DATES:**

**Board Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, odd months except July):**

**November 11**

**January 8**

**March 12**

**May 14**