

## Groton Historical Society Minutes

June 7, 2016

Present: Deborah Jurist, Phyllis Burke, Judy Chandler, Harry Chandler, Alissa Smith, Brent Smith, Joan Haskell

Meeting began at approximately 6:05 PM

### Old Business

- Deborah Jurist read minutes from previous meeting. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote
- Deborah reported that lawn has been mowed twice. She further reported that she had added plants in front of the Peter Paul House and in the barrels. She further reported that Diane Farquharson of the Red Kettle has been monitoring and maintaining the flowers in the barrels.
- Alissa provided the Treasurer's Report which showed
  - \$1,688.88 in income since January due to books sales, memberships and donations.
  - \$1,720.27 in expenses since January including utilities, cleaning services, insurance, VT Historical Society dues, newsletter printing, repairs, book printing and furnace cleaning
  - Bank account balance of \$1,921.51
  - Certificate balance of \$9,934.53
  - The Treasurer's Report were approved by unanimous vote

### New Business/Reports

- Deborah provided Alissa with additional checks for recent book purchases and indicated that we are running low on books and will probably need more for reunion. Erik will order 12 additional copies
- Alissa presented a letter received from Robert Somaini from the Barre Antique Mall indicating he was unhappy with the size and thickness of the new version of the book and how difficult it is to keep the book open to a specific page. He also alerted us to a needed correction on page 286 incorrectly lists Josiah Keenan's Mill on Milligan Pond listed as a homestead on Groton Pond. The mill was the home of Lovell Frost in the 1890s. Erik will set up a folder to keep track of any further corrections we are notified about for the next reprinting
- Alissa reported that we had received a letter from Swenson Insurance asking us to complete a new form for the Bond Insurance which she will complete with the new officers' information
- **New Officer Elections**
  - Alissa nominated Erik Volk for Secretary. Judy Chandler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote elected Erik to the position
  - Alissa nominated Deborah Jurist for President. Harry Chandler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote elected Deborah to the position.
  - Deborah nominated Alissa to be Treasurer. Phyllis seconded the motion. Unanimous vote re-elected Alissa to Treasurer.

- Alissa nominated Brent Smith to be Vice President. Phyllis seconded the motion. Unanimous vote elected Brent to be Vice President
- Alissa reported that we needed someone else to audit our Finances since Deane Page would not be doing it anymore. Richard Brooks was suggested and Alissa will follow up with him.
- Phyllis presented her mounting of the postcards given by Alice Goodine and Norma Hosmer and photos which she had arranged in an album. She also brought an additional photo album she had procured at the Library Yard Sale. The new photo album was given the Harry Chandler to help arrange the post cards Deb had provided him for organization.
- **Groton High School Reunion**
  - Erik reported that he had been in contact with Ann Winter and they have given us permission to have a booth to sell books and record memories of Groton High School Alumni
  - Erik spoke about the plans for recording 2-3 minute interviews with alumni asking them various questions about their youth, Groton History, etc. We will digitally record the conversations and take a photo of the person we recorded. These will then be made available online for people to access and listen to.
  - Erik further reported that Ann had requested that we show up Friday morning to set up to avoid commotion on the day of the event. No one was available so Erik, Deborah, Alissa and Aaron Smith will meet at 4:00 on Friday to assure everything is set up. Erik will follow up with Ann Winter to confirm that we have a key and can set up Friday night and to see if she can mark off where she would like us to set up.
  - Erik suggested that we bring old yearbooks and have them available for perusal. Alissa indicated that we have a full set in the house somewhere as well as extras we could give out to anyone who is interested. Alissa also presented a box of the All Class Reunion yearbook that was created before and it was suggested we could give these out free of charge. The yearbooks will be picked up on Friday when we set up at the Community Building
- Brent reported that the Historical Society may want to start thinking about the upcoming 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first graduating class at Blue Mountain School.
- Alissa reported that she would like to centralize the process for maintaining the membership list. It is becoming difficult to maintain as we have at least two separate lists between her list, Willard's and possibly others. Erik and Debra indicated we do have a central storage area for files and this can be used to house a centralized list. Erik will follow up with Willard and will set up a centralized list and provide all interested folks the link. He will write up instructions if that is needed. Alissa will provide him with her membership spreadsheet as a starting point.
- **Sleeping Sentinel Concert**
  - The concert is scheduled for Saturday, September 3 at 5:30 PM.
  - Deborah reported that after speaking with Mark Simakaski, it was decided the concert should start at 5:30 instead of later as history has proven that people will depart after dark. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 3.
  - Deborah reported that Mark Simakaski indicated he would be willing to do a cider press demonstration in conjunction with the Sleeping Sentinel Concert
  - Deborah reported that the best advice she has been given about the concert is that we need to start promoting it early. A Press Release schedule has been created starting in

June. Erik will draft a press release and check with Janet Page of the Recreation Committee to see if she can help in dispersing it to local media.

- Erik explained that we are planning to have a Sleeping Sentinel trivia game at the event during intermission, perhaps with prizes. He distributed samples of the questions which have already been drafted.
- Deborah is going to go ahead and buy flower bulbs which could be sold at the concert. Left over bulbs can be sold at Fall Foliage and any left overs could be planted at the Peter Paul House.
- Since the sign out front of the Peter Paul House has been effective, Deborah will draft up a new sign for the Sleeping Sentinel concert.
- Deborah reported that she is still interested in the Apple Pie fundraiser but we would need a freezer to store them in. Judy indicated Groton Methodist Church had lots of room in their freezer and will check to see if this is a possibility.
- Deborah reported that she has been unsuccessful with getting Bobby Farlice-Rubio to give us an update on the digital conversion of the “Through Our Neighbors’ Eyes” film. We were hoping to sell copies of the film with his permission. Deborah will email Brent with further info and Brent will follow up to see if he can make contact.
- Judy announced that members may be interested in the Vermont History Expo at the Turnbridge World Fairgrounds on June 18 & 19.
- Due to the July 4 holiday and the availability of officers, the next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 6 at 6:00**
- Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

**Action Items**

Alissa	Forward Erik current version of membership list
Alissa	Will follow up with Richard Brooks regarding auditing finances
Brent	Follow up with Bobby Farlice-Rubio regarding film conversion
Deborah	Make new sign for Peter Paul House advertising Sleeping Sentinel concert
Deborah	Provide “Through Our Neighbors’ Eyes” info to Brent for follow up.
Erik	Order 12 more copies of Mr. Glover’s Groton for Reunion
Erik	Set up folder online to keep track of Mr. Glover’s Groton’s corrections and share with Officers
Erik	Set Up Membership tracking spreadsheet on Google Drive, write instructions and work with Willard to assure we can all access the same membership list
Erik	Prepare document for reunion folks to assign given us clearance to use their recordings
Erik	Notify Ann Winter that Historical Society set up will occur on Friday afternoon.
Erik	Write up Sleeping Sentinel Press Release
Erik	Contact Janet Page about issuing press releases

Erik, Deborah & Alissa	Meet at Community Building at 4 PM on Friday, June 24 to set up tables and arrange yearbooks
Harry	Arrange postcards in new album
Judy	Check with Grace Baptist Church to see if we can use their freezer to store pies