

## **Minutes from Groton Vermont Historical Society final meeting of 2016 October 4, 2016**

Minutes recorded by member Phil Coutu in absence of Secretary Erik Volk

Present: Deborah Jurist, Philip Coutu, Alissa Smith, Phyllis Burke, Diane Kreiss, Brent Smith, Willard Benzie, Janet Puffer

Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm.

We are not having previous meeting minutes read at our monthly gathering in an effort to save time. Secretary will send minutes to board members to review prior to next monthly meeting. Meeting minutes will also be available on the online shared Google drive

### **Treasurers Report/financial business**

Alissa Smith passed out financial report. She gave reimbursement checks to Phil Coutu and Deborah Jurist. Deborah asked Alissa to provide a financial statement for Nov 1 2016 and another in January 2017. Group voted to have a debit card for the checking account. Deborah mention we need to send out membership renewals in early Dec. Willard and Diane suggested we do some advertising to get more members. Suggested using ListServ and putting adds in local newspapers.

### **Updates on To Do items**

- Deborah brought up door in basement. Asked Brent Smith to help resolve.
- Diane will remind Dean Page about turning off the water in the PPH
- Online payments – we decided to table this issue
- Brent got list of Grotonites who worked on the Vermont Interstate System. He got this from Herb Hatch.
- Brent also reported that he spoke to Matt Nunn about the PPH roof and that it needs some maintenance Matt wanted a bit more detail about what we wanted/require.

### **Fall Foliage Day**

-Overall a success. We had about approximately 150 coming in and out of the house. We sold several Mr. Glovers Groton books, got new memberships, sold bulbs and received a good amount of money in the donation jars. We raised \$405 dollars for the day. This money was given to Alissa during this meeting. We could have used a few more volunteers to help monitor rooms and displays over the course of the day. Phil took photos from the event and will send to group and someone on board will post to website and Facebook page.

### **New Items:**

- Discussed possibility of having a sign made to reserve parking spaces in front of the PPH for folks having issues walking etc. this would be a temporary sign just to put on when we are having events
- Phil reported that he and Deborah agreed to give the photos of the Frosts that were donated by the Eglestons to the Topsham Historical Society. Topsham Hist Society president, Bill Hodge came to PPH to see them and said many of the Frost descendants live in Topsham. Janet Puffer said a letter needs to be send to the Eglestons telling we donated them to Topsham Historical Society. Phil will have Erik send a letter.
- Janet brought up that side door needs some maintenance (rust on outside bottom and missing weather stripping)

-Lona Gray donated some antique hats. Mens and womans. A vote was taken to accept them. They will go well with current antique clothing we have. Will have Erik Volk send thank you letter to Lona Gray from GHS.

-Deborah brought up we should try and digitize Seth Eastman's Civil War Journal to help preserve and have it available for folks to purchase. It is a great resource and we've had a number of folks looking to get copies.

-Brent brought up that the Blue Mountain School has never had a reunion and that there is no alumni group. Maybe someone on the GHS will want to organize something

-Brent also asked if we have any formal way of citing when a historical building to demolished/razed. No one knew of anything formal. But Deb suggested we update the new walking tour map and notes with this information. In the past it has always been oral history passed down on the fate of Groton buildings.

-Deborah asked Phil to ask Erik to order 24 more copies of Mr. Glovers Groton future sales.

-Deborah brought up possibility of doing a book sale/membership drive with food in early to mid December at the PPH. Phil and Deborah will work on putting something together.

### **To Do Items**

Work on converting the Seth Eastman journals to digital DJ and EV

Follow up with Matt Nunn about roof painting, securing door on south side of house, sanding and painting the side door BS

Membership upgrade to google document DJ EV WB and AS

Table of Contents for old Newsletters DJ WB EV

Upgrade Civil War uniform storage PB with DJ

Finance Report by Oct 31 through Fall Foliage AS

Finance Report Jan 1 ready for May meeting AS

Recruit BMU reunion organizers BS and JP

Check into and acquire a debit card for bank account AS

Link our bank account to Pay pal for ability to order books on Amazon EV

Meet with Dean Page for more info about Groton during his childhood. DJ PC (?) EV (?)

Come up with date and idea for book selling and membership event at PPH –PC and DJ

Decide other possible organizing days at PPH Nov 7th? And Dec 5<sup>th</sup> PC

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm