



Old Lyme Historical Society, Inc.

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www.oldlymehistorical.org

Minutes

Board of Trustees, Monday, May 9, 2011

Present: Barbara Bair, Tim Griswold, Martha Hansen, Jennifer Hillhouse, Ellis Jewett, Mark Lander, Alison Mitchell, Jim Noyes, Norman Stitham, Carol Winters, Patsy McCook, Janet Littlefield, Dyanne Rafal, John Flower, Michaelle Pearson, Tom Schellens

Excused: Sousan Arafah, Roger Breunig, Dick Bugbee, Helen Scott, Dolores Green, Susan Griggs, Julia Griswold, Karen Winters, Bob Dunn

Absent: John Flower

1. Call to order: Alison Mitchell, Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M.

2. Approval of April 11, 2011 Minutes

Mark Lander asked to have the attendance record corrected to show that he did not attend the meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Barbara Bair, seconded by Tom Schellens, to approve the April 11, 2011 minutes. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

3. Treasurer's Report - Carol Winters

April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011

	Opening Balance:	\$ 12,243.45
Income		
	Book Sales- Flo Gris	
	Rum Runners	40.00
	Book Sales	
	38 Hurricane	291.00
	Land Savers	120.00
	Poverty Island	15.00
	Rum Runners	40.00
	Donations	10.00
	Scholarship Donations	150.00
	Membership	725.00
	Events	<u>2,205.00</u>
Total Income		\$ 3,596.00
Expenses		
	Grange Book	\$ 325.00
	Office Expense	362.92
	Postage	84.00
	Rent	125.00
	Scholarship	500.00
	Event	1,807.59
	Telephone	60.44
	Web Site Enhancement	<u>60.00</u>
Total Expenses		\$3,324.95
Ending Balance		\$ 12,514.50

MOTION: A motion was made by Jim Noyes, seconded by Mark Lander, to accept the Treasurer's Report. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

The net profit from the dinner lecture was \$934.

4. Living History; Board Members: Ellis Jewett

Ellis Jewett told a very interesting story about how the 1928 Maxim Pumper fire truck, purchase in 1927 by the Old Lyme Fire Department for \$8,000, came back to Old Lyme and was restored. The truck served the town from 1928 to 1954. When the old truck was retired, the town sold it to Shirley Saunders, who later sold it to someone else. The location of the truck was a mystery until 1988, when Robert Frost, of Charlestown, Rhode Island, called and wanted to sell it back to the fire department for \$4,200. The truck was in very bad shape, rusted, with parts missing, but was eventually bought back for \$3,500. Money was raised by the Fire Department to restore the truck (remember those cow chip contests?) and every Tuesday night for 6 years a group of dedicated volunteers met to work on restoring the truck. Another truck was purchased for parts. The truck has now been fully restored (well, almost) and is kept at the Fire House and used in the Memorial Day parade. Ellis passed around an album of photos documenting the old truck and its restoration.

Jennifer Hillhouse will report next month.

5. Civil War Commemoration, Town of Old Lyme: Tim Griswold, Alison Mitchell

An event will be planned for September, and may be held at the Town Hall in the large meeting room. It would be nice to involve the schools in some way. A steering committee was created to plan the event. Tim Griswold, Norman Stitham, Helen Scott, Tom Schellens, and Jennifer Hillhouse agreed to serve on the committee.

MOTION: Janet Littlefield moved, seconded by Jim Noyes, to proceed with planning an event to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

6. Proposed Family Event: Michaëlle Pearson, Dyanne Rafal

There was a discussion about having a family event sometime in August, probably a clam bake, at Griswold Point. Jennifer Hillhouse will check the schedule of events at Griswold Point and report back regarding available dates. Michaëlle Pearson, Dyanne Rafal, Martha Hansen, and Jennifer Hillhouse will serve on the event committee.

7. Office Use: Email, Work Space: Patsy McCook

A lockable cabinet or a larger, lockable desk is needed for the office so that extra newsletters, books, etc. can be stored securely. It would be nice to be able to expand the use of the office with access to email for the Board of Trustees, etc. This led to a discussion about the need for more office (and archival) space. Tom Schellens agreed to find out about the availability of the house at 38 Lyme Street which has been for sale for a long time.

MOTION: Tim Griswold moved, seconded by Ellis Jewett, to authorize the Historical Society to investigate the availability of 38 Lyme Street. All present voted in favor, with the exception of Carol Winters, who abstained. Motion passed.

8. Annual Meeting, Committee Reports: Patsy McCook, Helen Scott

The AGGIES (Archival Gals and Guys) will give a presentation at the Annual Meeting on June 20. Invitations will be mailed to OLHSI members. Alison Mitchell, Dyanne Rafal, Ellis Jewett and Mark Lander will bring refreshments - cookies, cheese & crackers, iced tea, etc. Dyanne will provide paper goods. All committee heads are asked to submit a written yearly activities report at the meeting.

9. Board Committees: Reports:

Archives: Jim Noyes, Mark Lander, Ellis Jewett, Janet Littlefield, Carol Winters, Alison Mitchell

The committee meets every Wednesday to catalog items in the archives currently stored in Alison Mitchell's basement. This week the committee will visit the Lyme Public Hall and the Old Saybrook Historical Society.

Finance/Budget: Carol Winters, Chair, Alison Mitchell, Tim Griswold

A \$1,000 donation was made to the Publications Fund by Matt Prosser (thanks to Jennifer Hillhouse for her efforts in obtaining this donation).

Strategic Planning/Grants: Alison Mitchell, Chair, Martha Hansen, Dyanne Rafal, Barbara Bair, Karen Winters

The committee met on April 28 and discussed grant possibilities and the results of the survey distributed to the board at the last meeting. The survey results will be used to help prioritize grant applications.

The top 3 selections were:

1. Archival Space –temp & humid. controlled. -15 votes
2. Building with office, exhibit & archival space – 14 votes
3. Archival Materials – acid-free boxes, etc. 12 – votes

Next came:

4. Publications – 6 votes
5. 3-way tie – Newsletter, scholarship fund, Oral history tech support – 3 votes each
6. Tech support for walking tour projects -2 votes
7. Website & exhibits tied with 1 vote each
8. Events – dinner lectures, cemetery tours, etc.

There was also a suggestion to apply for funding to help create a strategic plan.

Scholarship: Karen Winters, Chair, Carol Winters, Mark Lander, Dolores Green, Barbara Bair

Last meeting was on April 18th. Only one application was received but the young lady that was chosen was an extremely qualified candidate. Carol will deliver the check to the High School and see if the recipient can attend our annual meeting.

Exhibits/Work Crew: John Flower, Chair – no report

Events: Tom Schellens, Chair – no report

Publications: Alison Mitchell, Chair

The book about Old Lyme in the 1920's is moving along. The Grange will host a reception, probably sometime in July. Alison suggested forming a Publications Advisory Committee made up of people who are not on the Board of Trustees. The committee would meet several times a year to discuss publication ideas for the Society. Several names were mentioned as candidates for the committee – Judith St. George, Jean Read, John Stratton, and Dick Coniff.

Oral History Project: Sousan Arafah, Chair, Julia Griswold, Co-chair, Barbara Bair, Dolores Green, Michaelle Pearson, Helen Scott, Mark Lander, Karen Winters

The next oral history interview day will be Thursday, May 26, at the Senior Center. WWII veterans, and others, will be interviewed. Julie Maynard will be recognized at the Annual Meeting for her work on the project.

School Liaison: Helen Scott, Chair- no report

Membership/Marketing: Dyanne Rafal, Chair, Michaelle Pearson, Norman Stitham

Current membership is over 150, each board member is asked to come up with the names of 3 new people who might be interested in becoming members.

Publicity/Photography: Bob Dunn, Chair- no report

Newsletter: Patsy McCook, Chair

The summer issue of the newsletter will contain a list of all current members, an article about the 1920s book, a photo of the AGGIES, and possibly an interview with Jean Vasilof and/or David McCulloch.

Website: Martha Hansen, Chair

Google Analytics report – 135 visits from 5 different countries – US (131), France, Ireland, UK, Norway (1 each)

Office Staffing: Julia Griswold, Chair

The office staffing is going well. Volunteers are needed to staff the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10 am to 12 noon. Please contact Julia Griswold at 434-5727 if you would like to volunteer.

Facilities: Jim Noyes, Chair – no report

Nominating: Barbara Bair, Chair, Alison Mitchell, Jim Noyes

Three people have agreed to serve on the Board of Trustees – Catherine Christiano, Joanne Hedwall, and Jane Cable. They will replace Alison Mitchell, Jim Noyes and Dick Bugbee when they leave the board in June.

10. Walking Tour: Progress Report: Martha Hansen

A rough draft/prototype of the walking tour was passed around. The tour is almost ready for publication.

11. Marty Ames Family Papers: Jim Noyes – no report

12. Upcoming OLHSI 2011 Events: 1) Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 30, 2011; 2) Annual Meeting; Monday, June 20, 2011; 3) Caroline Zinsser Workshop, Wed. July 20, 2011 4) Midsummer Festival, Friday-Saturday, July 29-30, 2011: acm
Please put these dates on your calendars.

13. Other Business

Jennifer Hillhouse mentioned that the bus trip to Salem, Massachusetts was a success, and there may be another trip planned to New Bedford in September.

14. Next OLHSI Board Meeting: 4 p.m. Monday, June 13, 2011, 4 pm. The Annual Meeting is June 20, 2011, at 4 pm.

15. Motion to Adjourn

Patsy McCook moved, seconded by Tom Schellens, to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 pm. All present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha C. Hansen
Secretary