

Newport Historical Society Board Meeting
August 12, 2013 – 6:30 PM
The NHS Museum – “The Nettleton House”

Call to order at 6:32 PM with President Baird presiding.

Board Members present: Cathryn Baird, Jerry Hagebusch, Jackie Cote, Larry Cote, Virginia Irwin, Priscilla Hagebusch, Rita James, Craig Cowing,

Board Members absent: Laura Kessler, Dean Stetson, Christina O’Brien, Stan Sweeney

Members attending: Dottie Collins, Dick Gassett, Peter Martin

Public Forum: **Peter Martin** spoke to the group about selling the DVD “Two Bridges” that he had put together for the Pier Bridge Preservation Project. Initially the DVD had problems with the program freezing about 10-15 minutes into the play function. Peter told the group that he had updated technology and the problem would not occur in the future. Virginia Irwin played the video borrowed from Peter just prior to our meeting. She stated that, although in her opinion there were problems with some of the transitions between interviews, among other minor things, she liked the content. Jackie stated that the portions of the content relating to raising the grant match for the project must be removed so that people viewing it don’t think that we are still trying to raise money for the project. She also stated that it was paramount that the DVD not have a freeze-frame problem if the Historical Society were to sell it. Cathryn mentioned that the DVD case cover needed to be redesigned with different colors because the bright turquoise background with pink letters was an eye strain making the words seem blurry. Jackie asked for a copy so that she could view it and get back to Peter with areas that should be deleted from the content. Peter said that he would fix the problems and have a copy for us to view before we agreed to sell it. The price would still be \$20 with Peter getting \$10 and NHS getting \$10.

Secretary’s Reports:

A motion was made by Pris Hagebusch, seconded by Larry Cote to accept the June 10 Minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved. A motion was made by Rita James, seconded by Dottie Collins to accept the July 8 Minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report:

A motion was made by Virginia Irwin, seconded by Pris Hagebusch to accept the July financial reports. The reports were unanimously approved and placed on file.

Fundraising Report: Presented by Jackie Cote, see attached. Jackie presented a Newport ornament designed in three dimension by Sarah Cave of New London. The ornament is about 3 ¼” in diameter and contains the opera house, Corbin bridge, little red school house, south church, Richards library, soldier’s monument and gazebo on the common with “Newport NH” arched across the bottom. Sarah has indicated a willingness to partner with us to sell these. She has designed these for several other local

towns and sells them from her gift shop in the front of Peter Christians in New London. Jackie purchased one and had it for the Board to see. They come with a ribbon to be hung or a little stand can be purchased if hanging is not desired. It comes gift boxed. The ornament alone is \$28 and with the stand, it sells for \$32. It appears that we would purchase the ornament for \$18 giving NHS a profit of \$10. It was suggested that we present it at the Apple Pie Craft Fair and take orders or get feedback. We would have to purchase in lots of 25 minimum as that is the minimum from the company in Marblehead, MA who molds them. Jackie will firm up details with Sarah.

Membership: Jackie reported that we currently have 233 members and that the Membership Drive will be starting in September with a mailing going out.

Museum Report: Presented by Larry Cote, see attached.

As part of the Museum Report, Larry again presented the contractors' estimates for the Nettleton House roof replacement. The two lowest bidders were Dennis Desilets of Claremont at \$6,543.50 and MacIntyre & Sons Building of Goshen at \$6,100.00. Larry stated that he would be comfortable with either of these contractors. After discussion, Jackie Cote made a motion to have either Desilets or MacIntyre reroof the building based on which contractor could do the job the soonest, seconded by Rita James. All Board members present voted in the affirmative with Virginia Irwin abstaining.

Newsletters: Jackie reported that the newsletter with an insert including printing, envelopes and postage costs approximately \$330 each quarter with \$100 being donated by a community business, currently Sugar River Bank. Craig Cowing offered that we consider not using an envelope but using the back page for mailing label. Jackie said that doing that would cut down on the space available for newsletter articles that is already tight for some publications. Pris suggested that instead we stop mailing newsletters to non-members, notify them in our October publication that this would be the last one that they received in the mail unless they joined. Newsletters will still be available on line or at both banks, the library and town office for non-members to pick up. It was agreed that we move forward with Pris's suggestion.

Publicity Report: Presented by Pris Hagebusch, see attached.

Old Business:

A. Apple Pie Craft Fair, Saturday, August 24 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Jackie reported that Rita James has volunteered to serve at the booth for the whole day. Jackie and Larry will set up at 7 AM and man the booth with Rita until 11:30 AM when they must leave for a museum tour for the Class of 1963 at 1:00 PM. From 11:30 until 3 PM Cathryn and Rita will man the booth. It was agreed that we should have the Newport old photo board out in front as we did last year and at Chamber Day. Jackie will contact Stan Sweeney to see if he can take care of rotating the photos every hour as he did last year. [Stan says, yes, he will do that for us] Jerry Hagebusch will transport the kits and board back to the museum at 3:15 PM with his truck.

B. Badges for Docents - Virginia reported that they are in process with the State prison employees and should be available soon.

C. Credit Card Research – Virginia reported that several of the crafters at the Mt Sunapee Craft Fair were using the “Square” for their credit card transactions. More research needs to be done about technology to use it and the associated costs.

D. DAR Flag – The DAR will hold their September 14 meeting at the Museum on the third floor and Cathryn Baird will present the DAR Flag.

E. Roof Replacement Vote – See Museum Report above

F. Facebook/Web Site Update – Pris is working with Bacon Graphics on a Facebook page. Virginia and Jackie have not had a chance to meet regarding the website update but will try to do so before the September meeting.

G. Program Committee – Cathryn has reported that she has sent in a check and application form to the NH Humanities Council for an October 14 program on the NH Sheep Boom presented by Steve Taylor and also for the November 19 program presented by the Woods of Claremont on Sarah Hale’s involvement with President Lincoln making Thanksgiving a national holiday 150 years ago this year. The 11/19 program will be held in the library ballroom.

H. North Newport to Kelleyville Walking Tour – We have several who have signed up and paid the \$2. We are also telling folks that they don’t have to sign up and pay money **as long as** they understand that they will be responsible to provide their own transportation from Kelleyville or walk back. They must sign up and pay if they want us to transport them back to North Newport where they left their cars. Pris is working on poster/publicity for the event and Jackie will try to get on WCNL with the information to get the word out.

New Business:

A. Annual Meeting – To be held on Columbus Day, October 14 which is the 2nd Monday in October.

B. Business Stationery – Cathryn and Pris will work on a design.

C. Business Cards – Several officers expressed the need for a business card. Craig Cowing offered that VistaPrint is very reasonable in price.

D. Documentation of Parmelee Book and McCrillis Ski Trophy – Cathryn brought up the problem of locating the original Parmelee diary. Larry said that the museum does have the ski trophy which is currently at Harringtons being cleaned. He also stated that Bob Collins and John Salo, who are both recipients and listed on the trophy, met at one of the Farmers Markets to see the trophy which Larry brought down.. Both men joined the NHS that day.

E. Event for Corbin Bridge 20th Anniversary – Cathryn will organize a meeting of interested people before our September meeting.

F. Sweatshirts – Jackie said that sweatshirts had been ordered for the Newport graphic logo and will be available at the Apple Pie Craft Fair. The graphic design will appear on the front only.

G. Generous Gift – Cathryn reported a most generous gift of \$3,000 received from Igor Blake. Jackie noted that this generous donation will pay for ½ of the cost of the roof replacement.

H. Home Depot Donation – Larry will approach Home Depot regarding the donation or discount of some special metal racks for the museum annex to be used to organize

artifacts by type. This will make locating what we have so much easier when museum room rotations occur.

Other New Business – Jackie reported on Larry and her visit to Lempster Old Home Day and Lempster’s \$900,000 fundraising campaign that has been ongoing for a few years to save and restore the beautiful Lempster Meeting House, built in 1794. Jackie said that this building is a Lempster, Sullivan County and national treasure. She also stated that when we sent out a mailing to all NH historical societies soliciting donations for the Pier Bridge project, Lempster gave very generously to our appeal. Jackie made a motion that NHS donate \$100 to the Lempster Meeting House Restoration Project, seconded by Rita James, all voted in the affirmative.

Adjournment: At 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Cote, Acting Secretary for Laura Kessler