

Newport Historical Society Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, August 8, 2016
The Nettleton House

1. **Call to Order** by President Cathryn Baird at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Members Present:** Cathryn Baird, Jackie Cote, Larry Cote, Dick Gassett, Jerry Hagebusch, Jayna Hooper, Rita James, Dean Stetson, Ann Stout.

Public Present: Arnie Hebert
3. The **Minutes** of the July 11, 2016 meeting were moved by Larry and seconded by Jackie. They were approved unanimously.
4. The **Treasurer's Report** was handed out by Jackie Cote, with the following account summaries:
 - i. Accounting Summary of 7/1/16 - 7/31/16
 - ii. Main Operating Account, Fiscal Year ending 9/30/16: *July 2016 Income and Expenditures were reviewed.*
 - iii. Nettleton House Account, FY ending 9/30/16: *July 2016 income/expenditures reviewed.*
 - iv. NHS Budget Comparison Operating Acct. – Income, 10/1/15-9/30/16: *July 2016 income reviewed.*
 - v. NHS Budget Comp. Operating Acct. – Expenses, 1/1/15-9/30/16: *July 2016 expenses reviewed.*
 - vi. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Income, 10/1/15 – 9/30/15: *July 2016 sales/donation income reviewed.*
 - vii. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Expenses, 10/1/15 – 9/30/15: *July 2016 building expenses reviewed.*
 - viii. Farmers' Market / Apple Pie Craft Fair 2012-2016: *Comparison of revenue reviewed.*

Dick made a motion to accept the July treasury report. Rita seconded. The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

Rita made a motion to accept the June treasury report. Jerry seconded. The June Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

5. The **Fundraising Report** was given by Jackie Cote.
Six (6) notecard sets will be taken out of inventory, so they will be sold at a discounted price of \$3.50 per set. These sets include Sarah Josepha Hale, the Firehouse, the Opera House, the Depot, Nettleton, and Tiger. These cards may still be obtained in the three assorted notecard sets. New notecards will feature an autumn scene of the **Corbin Covered Bridge** by Venita Nudd, another autumn Corbin Bridge scene by Beth Rexford, and a winter view of the bright red **Little Red Schoolhouse** against a bright blue sky by Beth Rexford. Pris is working on enhancing a photo of **Pollards Mills** for future sale as well.

The NHS has replenished its supply of the "**Finns**" book. Other new books that will be released to the public are the new **Billy B. Van book** (available at the BBV program on Tuesday, August 9th) and the **Jacob Wheeler diary**. Jacob Wheeler was a very close friend of Austin Corbin. The diary details their young adult lives in Newport before they decide to travel for a time out West. Corbin eventually marries Jacob's sister, Hannah. The diary available for the public is the first in a three-set diary by Wheeler. In addition to these two books, Jayna is preparing to also have the **Charles Emerson diary** made ready for the public.

During the past year, **Maxine Houle** has donated to the NHS 20 books about her father, **Jesse Scott**, to sell. The proceeds from the sale of these books has resulted in a profit of \$500, thanks to Maxine's generosity. After numerous printings to keep up with public demand, there are only six (6) of Maxine's books left. No more printings will be done! The NHS has two (2) books, Spunky Dodge has two (2), and Maxine has two (2). Dick will purchase one of the two available books from the NHS to donate to the Richards Free Library for its collection. (The NHS does have a complimentary copy.)

Sales at the **Farmer's Market** were down for July, due to vacation schedules and the heat. The number of vendors at the Market for 2016 also seems to be down.

NHS membership stands at 244 members. The membership drive is coming up, and the NHS hopes for 11 more members to meet its goal of 255 total members.

6. The **Museum Report** was given by Larry Cote.

The museum had 45 visitors sign the guest book for the month of July.

Twelve individuals **donated items** to the museum, totaling 111 items. These items include a Winston Hotel #18 room key, which will make a nice complement to the museum's Sugar River Hotel key. In addition to these donated items, **Barbara Huff** gave the museum a nice stand that has been placed in the office to hold her prints.

Larry has ordered 10 additional **light fixtures**, in cooperation with Greg Stout from LaValley Building Supply, which will be installed to eliminate some of the dark areas in the museum. This should help to brighten the display areas, particularly in the winter time.

Arnie Hebert has been volunteering to enter data into the museum's **Past Perfect program**. Thank you to Arnie for his assistance!

7. **Old Business:**

The NHS website's "NO HOST" verbiage will be removed, as it inaccurately depicts the museum's planned coverage for those calendar days. Ann initiated an **on-line calendar** for museum coverage, but NHS board members are not in favor of putting that schedule on-line. Museum coverage will be planned internally. Jackie has agreed to contact NHS board members in case there are dates that still need to be filled in on the host calendar.

The question arose as to whether or not there is a **master calendar of events** for the town. It was agreed that the Chamber of Commerce should have a master calendar provided and maintained for public informational purposes, maintained through the town website.

Sponsorship space on the NHS website will be devoted to crediting NHS newsletter sponsors, program sponsors, book sponsors. Jackie will give a list of the sponsors of the Billy B. Van book to Dean to put on the website. Jackie will also give Dean information about the **BBV book** for sale: 143 pages, color photos, \$20.00.

Dean will look into getting statistics concerning the number of people who visit the **NHS website**.

New Business:

Ann has created a **Billy B Van Facebook page**; there is another Billy B. Van Facebook page.) Promoting BBV on Facebook will give NHS marketing opportunity.

One copy of the BBV book will be sent to Van's grandson, **Peter Harding**, in California. One copy will be given to **John Tariot**, film restorer and archivist. (Tariot gave a poster of Van's playlet "Spooks" to the museum.) Additional complimentary copies will be given to each of the book's sponsors: **Sugar River Bank, Lake Sunapee Bank, Roy**

Malool Family Foundation, Hubert's Department Store, Dierdre Dane Wachtel, Paul & Cathryn Baird, Larry & Jackie Cote.

The museum committee will develop a "**BBV display room**" at the end of September.

The NHS board members discussed its **museum key policy**: Only board members are allowed keys. Anyone else who would like access should call the museum director and/or an executive board member. Not all board members have keys. A list of those with keys will be documented, and a signature of responsibility shall be signed. This document will include that key-holders will not copy keys. Ann made a motion to **table the discussion** of further sharing keys beyond the general outline, aforementioned, **until the NHS's current policy is written down**. Jackie seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

The NHS has received a quote of **\$1,500 to cap the wall** between the Nettleton House and the entry to the parking lot with 3-inch thick granite. Jackie moved that **Michael Hale** repairs the wall at the price given. Jerry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Editor of the *Eagle Times* has brought over books of past *Argus-Champions*. Ann made a motion for Larry to **purchase appropriate racks to store/display** seven (7) feet of these books. They will lay flat, 5 feet high. If these books are stored upright, the edge binding may tear. Jackie seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

A brief discussion ensued about the BBV program, scheduled for Tuesday, August 9th, at the Library Arts Center, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

8. **Meeting Adjourned**: 8:11 p.m. Motion made by Larry; seconded by Dean.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayna H. Hooper, Secretary