

Newport Historical Society Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2016
The Nettleton House

1. **Call to Order** by Vice President Jerry Hagebusch at 6:15 p.m.
2. **Members Present:** Jackie Cote, Larry Cote, Jerry Hagebusch, Priscilla Hagebusch, Jayna Hooper, Rita James, Dean Stetson, Ann Stout, Stan Sweeney.
Public Present: Arnie Hebert
3. **Tour** of the Historical Society Museum Annex, above the Court House, from 6:15 until approximately 6:40.
4. **Public Comments:** Hearty kudos given to Larry for his organization of the items in the Annex. Very impressive space and collection!
5. **Minutes** of the October 10, 2016, minutes were moved by Jackie Cote, with the necessary addition of Dean Stetson's name to the "Members Present" list noted. Larry seconded. Unanimous.
6. The **Treasurer's Report** was handed out by Jackie Cote, with the following account summaries:
 - i. Accounting Summary of 10/1/16 - 10/31/16
 - ii. Main Operating Account, Fiscal Year ending 9/30/17: *October 2016 Income and Expenditures were reviewed.*
 - iii. Nettleton House Account, FY ending 9/30/17: *October 2016 income/expenditures reviewed.*
 - iv. NHS Budget Comparison Operating Acct. – Income, 10/1/16-9/30/17: *Oct. 2016 income reviewed.*
 - v. NHS Budget Comp. Operating Acct. – Expenses, 10/1/16-9/30/17: *Oct. 2016 expenses reviewed.*
 - vi. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Income, 10/1/16 – 9/30/17: *Oct. 2016 sales/donation income reviewed.*
 - vii. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Expenses, 10/1/16 – 9/30/17: *Oct. 2016 building expenses reviewed.*
 - viii. Farmers' Market, Apple Pie Crafts Fair, and Chamber Day Income Comparison: 2012-2016

Thank you to Priscilla for formatting the page numbers for the treasury report.

Projected expenses were discussed (see p. 5), including major anticipated renovations (see p. 7). The anticipated renovations budgeted for include: repair to the wall near the driveway and adding a fire alarm to the security system.

Income from the year's Farmers' Market was down. This result was reflective of sales from Farmers' Markets being down state-wide.

The Treasurer's report was moved by Rita and seconded by Stan. Unanimously accepted.

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

There were 16 **visitors** who signed the museum's guest book in October. The **Cub Scouts** will be visiting the museum on a Tuesday evening, date to be determined. No purchases of artifacts were made, although the museum did acquire a **collection from Harold Perkins**, consisting of genealogical records, a stamp collection, among other papers.

The museum purchased **supplies**: 36 acid free storage boxes, and 12 boxes of acid free sleeves. A \$500 targeted donation from the Rotary Club will go toward the purchase of five additional wire-framed storage racks for the Annex. The **Rotary** has also invited Larry to speak to their organization, and he will do so on December 14th.

Rita James has started to organize **Marriage Intentions**, filed in the vital records file cabinet. A third-floor "map" of the library inventory has been produced and hangs near the telephone in the office. This map will change as the

museum's collection increases. After the new wire frame racks are purchased, assembled and populated, museum volunteers will produce a "map" of the Annex as well.

8. The **Fundraising Report** was given by Jackie Cote.

Six books on **Governor Francis Murphy** have been sold. The program, hosted by the Richards Free Library, on the Governor's early life – from a "barefoot boy" to a successful shoe manufacturer in Newport – sparked some renewed interest in this Newport notable!

The Croydon "**Forehand**" book is at the publisher's, and the NHS should have some soon to sell.

The NHS is hoping to be able to produce new postcards, featuring two aerial photos by **Jonathan Ryba**, as well as a winter image of the common by **Beth Rexford**. Beth has told us that she is willing to take photos for the NHS of any particular subject.

The reorder of 48 **Towle ornaments** has been shipped by Joan Dodge. The images for 2017 ornaments – a winter scene of the **Little Red Schoolhouse**, and **North Newport's Green Bridge** – have been sent to Joan for proofs.

The NHS will participate in **Twas Just Before Christmas** on Saturday, December 10th, at the Opera House, from 4-7 p.m. The Library Art Center's **Gallery of Gifts** has commenced, where NHS ornaments will be on sale. **Sugar River Bank boutique** sales (Nov. 4th) netted \$228.50 thus far.

The NHS participated in the **Richards School PTO craft fair** on Saturday, November 5th. Jackie met Linda Davis who makes pillows featuring images of Newport. The pillows sell for \$29.00 and are machine washable. Jackie has forwarded to Linda one Beth Rexford post card photo (with permission) – skating on the Common – to be made into three **16" pillows**. The NHS also has three of Davis's current Newport-themed pillows (one of the Corbin Covered Bridge, one of the Town Hall clock tower, one of the First Baptist Church) to sell on commission.

Priscilla has put together a gift list that has been sent out to members, and so far the NHS has received two mail orders: 1 (from Mass.) for a t-shirt, and another (from Missouri) for a sweatshirt.

The NHS ended its 2015-2016 **membership drive** on September 30th with 260 members – three short of last year's record of 263. To date, the NHS has 188 paid-ahead, Life, renewed, and new members. There are 68 members from last year who have not yet renewed. **Raffle winners** from the November 8th drawing at Revite are: Mandy McMahon (Dorr Mill Store), Gerry LaValley (Kathan Gardens), Marie Flint (LaValley Building Supply), Andrea Thorpe (Shaw's), Donna Monroe (Courthouse Restaurant).

9. **Old Business:**

The \$10,000 **endowment** has been moved to a 7-day CD for the time being: The six-month CD matured on November 10th, and Cathryn and Jackie will meet with Scott McGuire to discuss bonds.

The **Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire** held its annual meeting on October 22nd. The Newport Historical Society was recognized for "**excellence in public programming,**" with its Billy B. Van presentation in August (kudos Dean and Jayna). The NHS was also presented with the **2016 Historical Research Award** for Jayna's work on her book, *Billy B. Van: Newport's Sunshine Man*.

There is an open seat for the **NHS Board of Directors**. Arnie Hebert and Dr. Arthur Walsh have submitted their names. The current NHS executive officers will determine which individual will receive the open seat.

Past Perfect discussion continued: Visiting the Annex's inventory brought home a clear picture of the amount of inventory the NHS has in the museum. It was generally agreed that it would be a valuable asset to use the Past Perfect program. **Stan** is willing to work with Arnie. Stan recognized Larry for his great job in organizing the inventory. Dean raised the question of *how* inventory control using the Past Perfect program would be

accomplished. It was mentioned that the volunteers at Plainfield's historical society successfully archived 51,000 items, using vacation time to do so. Arnie explained that people who want to find items will need to know less than those willing and able to input the items. The Find/Query search engines are very effective. Jackie asked how long it will take to input everything. Dean suggested that the time is right for the NHS to delegate and to look at this opportunity to get younger folks involved. Jayna suggested that Past Perfect inventory input may be a way to get high school students involved. The NHS board will vote on the Past Perfect program in December.

10. **New Business:**

Jackie has prepared **2016 NHS finance reports** for the State. Dean remarked on the thoroughness of the report.

The NHS board discussed donation requests from the Moose, for its Thanksgiving meal, and the Newport Montessori's Tuition Assistance Program. It was agreed that, as a non-profit, it is not within our means or mission to be able to donate financially to these causes at this time.

2017 programs were discussed. It was agreed that a **Program Committee** was a wise way to plan programs for the upcoming year.

Dean highlighted changes and additions made to the **website**, including access to the gift list.

An end-of-the-year **potluck** for board members will take place at Cathryn's home **on Monday, December 12th, beginning at 6 p.m.**

Meeting Adjourned: 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayna H. Hooper, Secretary