

Falmouth Historical Society Minutes

July 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

Present were: Betsy Whitcomb, Fred Howe, Erin Cadigan, Ron Scorsone, David Farnham, and Sue Farnham.

Secretary's Report

The June minutes were approved by the Board.

Number of members pending renewal as of July 10, 2018 is 35. Current members total 62. Honorary members are now correctly recorded in the database.

Treasurer's Report

Checking our insurance coverage:

Firetruck insurance: \$75,000 is recommended by a dealer in antique firetrucks.

House insurance: insured for \$300,000; barn for \$30,000.

David is in the process of setting up budget for next year.

We need to update inventory merchandise, prices, and calculate value. This is something we are supposed to do annually.

Old Business

Activity at our table during the June elections table overall was good. From 7 – 9:00 AM, it was quiet as people were hurrying from the polls to work. It was busier in the afternoon and evening. We picked up at least 1 new member and a potential volunteer person (history major in college).

We had our first July open hours last Saturday: 1 person came, then 2 more after we technically were closed. We have 3 more weekends with open hours: Erin can do the 21st; Sue and David will do the 14th, the 28th is open.

The upcoming repeat bus tour of east Falmouth will be on July 18th. We will need to provide refreshments for their stop at the Historical Society and Museum. Betsy and Erin volunteered to do this.

The Dinner on the Coast is definitely not going to happen on the 22nd of this month. The town police chief does not want high school kids serving alcohol or be present while being served, as it goes against the values that the school officers have been instilling at school. An alternative date has not been set.

Erin reports that 2 FHS/Falmouth 300 representatives have been invited to the July 20th opening reception for the Seashore Trolley Museum's 2018 Teddy Roosevelt Days (by invitation only) is from 3 – 8 PM. This is part of the fundraising effort to restore the trolley Narcissus. Erin is unable to go. David and Sue will represent FHS.

Maintenance

Fred will repair the railing and install a new frost proof valve on the outside faucet soon. He has been experimenting with using PVC piping for a railing. He thinks it may work well, as we can paint it, and it will not splinter and disintegrate like wood. He brought a sample to show us.

Betsy reports that the sign company has started the permitting process at town hall.

Ron and Sue report that the condition of the trim on the house is getting worse, particularly with the front entry and the window over the kitchen sink. Scraping, sanding, priming and painting (possibly staining) needs to be done.

We need to improve the condition of the driveway. This would include expanding the area between the barn and house for a "turn around" area. We also need to think about room for parking. It would be cost effective to use "reclaim" asphalt on the surface. Betsy can check with Ted.

Thoughts: would Westbrook high school building trades take our project on? This could be something to investigate. We also can reach out to the membership on the Web.

David will put together a list of what we need to do to care for our buildings.

Thoughts: How to get involvement of the membership to help and participate in activities and projects. More discussion is to come in the future. The membership's input is welcome.

Computerizing archives: Ron and Erin will go through the inventory book, matching those records with records in the 3 card files (date, donor, and subject), then enter them in the computer. It is a complicated process and there is some confusion on how to proceed. They are making progress. Maine Historical Society uses "Past Perfect". Would it be helpful to have a conversation with the archivist at some of the other historical organizations?

Carol Hall Olsen called wanting to know the status of the ship model donation and the date of the Danish presentation. Tall Ships would like the ship. Carol will pay for transport of the ship to Maine (her brother in New Jersey may transport it). We need to contact Rich and have him get in touch with Carol to make arrangements. Carol can be reached at 909-798-1188. We do not know the date of the Danish presentation yet.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Farnham, Secretary