

Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 27, 2012
The Homestead

President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Cindy Joy moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved; second by Jim Sanders. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved; second by Jim Sanders. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Louise Burr – Our tenant agreement with Ed Rowland is the same as last year and will run from March 15 of this year to March 15, 2013. The storage shed is partly finished, and will have a loft for storage. Jim Sanders and his brothers are moving the DeVaux Garage display case from the Seymour Historical Society to the Homestead on Sunday, March 4. Dorothy DeBisschop is compiling estimates for roof and chimney replacements. She and Marcia Wrogg are planning to add another coat of tung oil in the Rowland Room and to begin painting the paneling.

Grant Reports – Cindy Joy

- a. Connecticut Community Foundation – This grant will help pay for our Grand Opening costs including a tent and presenters.
- b. Valley Community Foundation Grant Seeking Funds for Voices Insert for Grand Opening -- This will help us pay for publicity for our Grand Opening.
- c. Valley Community Foundation Emergency Grant Request for Roof Repair – We received this grant to help us fund a new roof for the Homestead in connection with the chimney replacement.

Membership Reports – Cindy Joy – In the past month we have received a total of \$290 from 16 households for membership. There are 46 households in our Society and 10 life member households.

Any Other Reports—There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

"Oxford History Remembered" – Nancy Farnum – When the printer's proof was received, Dorothy DeBisschop realized that the book was not as long as she had planned it to be. She is adding chapters on the spring on Little River and on Southford Falls. The index will have to be updated. A copy of the complete book will be available to look at during our March meeting. The pre-publication price is \$18; the cost of the book after publication is \$20. Members may contact Cindy Joy to place their orders.

Grand Opening: May 5, 6 – Louise Burr – On Saturday, May 5, David Ioda will portray General Humphreys with 2 or 3 appearances on his horse. On May 6, we will feature sheep shearing and spinning. Dorothy Aiksnoras Vallee has offered her sheep for shearing and Dorothy DeBisschop recently purchased a merino sheep that can be shorn as well.

We foresee a lack of parking spaces. Dorothy DeBisschop has suggested we use Rowland Farm Road and will contact the police and selectmen for that purpose. Myrtle Rowland offered their yard for parking. Ed Rowland suggested we contact the Archer family who own the field across the road and ask if we could park there.

Earl Chellis made and donated drop spindles for use and sale on May 6.

Jim Sanders recommended we use Boy and Girl Scouts as helpers.

Any Other Old Business—There was no other Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Calendars – Louise Burr – The calendar catalog is available for ordering. All calendars are \$12.

Any Other New Business – Barbara Robinson asked if anyone had followed up on booking Louis Dube to perform his program on Abraham Lincoln. Nancy Farnum explained that Dorothy DeBisschop planned to go to hear Mr. Dube. John Konicki had seen Mr. Dube's presentation and spoke very highly of it.

Adjournment – Jim Sanders moved that we adjourn; second by Myrtle Rowland. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Following refreshments, Nancy Farnum explained the provenance of several of our museum's artifacts and Jim Sanders spoke about the program Past Perfect that we are using to catalog our holdings.

Our next general meeting will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Rowland Homestead.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary