

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 23, 2012
The Homestead**

PLEASE BRING A COPY OF THESE MINUTES WITH YOU TO THE NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012. NOTE MEETING DATE CHANGE DUE TO MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the secretary's minutes be approved; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy noted donation of a glass window for the cupboard over the Rowland Room fireplace by Jane Hulbert and Nancy Farnum. Nancy Farnum moved that the treasurer's report be approved; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop reported that Marcia Wrogg and Jane Hulbert have been painting the window frame. The baseboard in the bathroom is nearly complete and the chimney and roof are done. The chimney did not cost as much as expected because the discarded bricks were not removed by the contractor. Ed Rowland saved them for future use as blanks in our brick walkways. Donnie Schiavi, Robbie Robinson and Ron Stebar installed the stone steps. Robbie put in a drain pipe across the front so the gutters will drain across. We no longer need drain extenders there. The extra stones from the former poor house went between trees in the back yard and at the end of the stone wall. Painting is almost done. Small doors over the fireplace are up. Weather depending, the ramp may be painted this week. The floor will be stained this summer and non-skid tracks laid this fall.

Marilyn Stebar discussed questions Ron had about the new front door: the dead bolt, lock and the direction that the front door will swing.

Membership Report – Marilyn Serus – Marilyn Serus stated that we have received an addition family membership and one senior membership. She hopes we will get more at the Grand Opening.

Any Other Reports -- There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

"Oxford History Remembered" – Dorothy DeBisschop – The books are on sale for \$20. Additional proof reading is complete. We will send in another order for additional copies for the Grand Opening.

Grand Opening: Saturday and Sunday, May 5 – 6 – Dorothy DeBisschop

- a. Volunteer Request: Signup sheets were circulated.
- d. Parking: There will be some parking in front. Parking near the house will be reserved for the elderly and mobility challenged. We will mark spaces when setting up the tents.
- e. Traffic Control: Ron Stebar will help with traffic control.

f. Indoor Docents: We are in need of volunteer docents for the Twitchell and Rowland Rooms.

g. Displays: Cindy Joy, Jim Sanders and Nancy Farnum are working on displays.

h. Voices Insert: The Voices insert is completed. It will be in the May 2 issue. Costs were covered by a Valley Community Foundation Grant. Voices gave us 200 extra to distribute.

i. Sales Table: Membership forms will be available on the sales table during the Grand Opening.

Calendars – Louise Burr – Calendar sales are going well.

Facebook Page – Dorothy DeBisschop – The Facebook Page exists.

Spring Water Jug, Chimney and Roof Donations – Dorothy DeBisschop – We will have a donation jar near the water jug to help cover the costs. When the weather is good, we will try to arrange a trip to the Spring with the Land Trust.

Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation Award – Dorothy DeBisschop – Dorothy DeBisschop displayed the framed award from the CTHP.

NEW BUSINESS

Any New Business

Budget Referendum: May 15 – A volunteer signup sheet was circulated.

DeVaux Garage Cabinet – Louise Burr brought Beulah Renker to the Homestead to see the cabinet she had fought so long and hard to save in place at last. Louise took a photo of Beulah to place in the cabinet.

Refreshments for May -- Marilyn Stebar volunteered to bring our May refreshments.

Floor Runner – Marilyn Serus – Marilyn Serus found that Lowe's had the best price of \$1.09/linear foot for a plastic runner to cover the uneven floor in the meeting room.

Adjournment – Marilyn Serus moved that we adjourn; second by Jane Hulbert. All in favor.

Following refreshments, Marilyn Serus read highlights from a recently discovered 1841 diary written by Shelton Smith who lived near the intersection of Hogsback Road and the present Route 67.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum

Recording Secretary