

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 25, 2013
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes to our next meeting on Monday, January 27, at the Homestead *following our potluck supper at 6 p.m.*

REPORTS

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

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved; second by Marilyn Stebar. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

- a. **Windows Replacement Plan** – The three windows for the Twitchell and Rowland Rooms have been painted, thanks to Dorothy DeBisschop, John Konicki, Catherine Helm, Marcia Wrogg and Jane Hulbert. The window in the Rowland Room by the driveway will be moved to another spot and replaced by one with a higher UV filtering rating. Windows have been ordered for the upstairs and will be here in late December or early January. Storm windows will be put on the large meeting room windows. The day after Thanksgiving, Ed Rowland and Spike Jones will install a window in the Twitchell Room.
- b. **Twitchell Room Floor Patching** – We need a 7" x 33" chestnut board to complete filling in the hole in the floor. We may need to substitute oak. Barbara Robinson checked with Don Rich, but he did not have any suitable wood.
- c. **Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom** – Small hand shuttles necessary for installing the heddles have been ordered; one was delivered, but the other is on back order.
- d. **Driveway Paving Fundraising and Grant Application** – Online donations from the Great Give totaled \$1,110. Twenty-three individuals gave, including one anonymous donor. We also received a General Electric matching gift of \$100 and about \$145 from the Connecticut Community Foundation. All monies will go to help pay for the cost of paving the driveway and parking areas. The Executive Committee wrote individual thank you notes to all concerned and Dorothy DeBisschop will write a letter to Voices and to Patch, thanking the public, the Foundation and Ion Bank for their support of the program. Persons who were unable to contribute during the Great Give may support the pavement project by sending a check earmarked for that purpose to the Historical Society. Dorothy feels that by showing that we have already accomplished dedicated fundraising for the project, we should be able to get grants to supplement our efforts. It is planned that the driveway and parking area will be installed in the spring.

Membership Report – Marilyn Serus – We have no new members.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Longtime Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar, Marcia Wrogg and Jane Hulbert – Interviews with Mary Kennedy, Leah Seabury and Carol Zwick will be set up after Thanksgiving.

Give Greater Online Fundraiser: November 12 and 13 – Final Tally – Dorothy DeBisschop – This item was covered under the **Homestead Report, Item d.: Driveway Paving Fundraising and Grant Application.**

Election Day Sales Booth: Tuesday, November 5 – President Louise Burr commented that this event was very successful.

St. Peter's Fair Sales Booth – This event was also a great success.

March 8, 2014 Civil War Program: "Connecticut Yankees at Antietam" by Author John Banks – Jack Konicki – John Banks has confirmed that he will speak on March 8. Marilyn Serus stated that she had reserved St. Peter's Church Hall for us for his appearance.

Any Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter from Peggy Hilton – Nancy Farnum read a letter from Peggy Hilton thanking the Society for making the showing of her father's drawings and paintings such a success.

"Petticoat Farm" Christmas Cards – Nancy Farnum – The Society is selling blank Christmas cards or winter notes featuring H. Reinhardt Lewis's drawing of Petticoat Farm in the snow.

8th Grade "Private William Webb" Presentation – April 21, 2014 – Dorothy DeBisschop – Kevin Johnson from the Connecticut State Library will reenact the role of Private William Webb for the 8th Grades. We will pay his honorarium and publicize the event. This is a way for residents to recognize the educational component we offer the community.

Potluck Supper Planning – Monday, January 27 – Homestead – 6 p.m. – Marilyn Serus – The annual potluck supper will be held at the Homestead. Beverages will be provided. Nancy Farnum will contact Dorothy Vallee to invite the Horse and Livestock Association to attend.

No December General Meeting.

Slate of Officers for 2014:

President: Louise Burr

First Vice-President: Marilyn Serus

Second Vice-President: Dorothy DeBisschop

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Robinson

Recording Secretary and Historian: Nancy Farnum

Treasurer: Cindy Joy

Assistant Treasurer: Position Vacant

Member at Large: John Konicki

Member at Large: Marilyn Stebar

President Louise Burr asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the secretary cast one ballot for the slate of officers; second by Myrtle Rowland. All in favor.

Any Other New Business – Brochures of events from the Waterbury Arts and Culture Collaborative were distributed.

Jack Konicki thanked the group for their card of sympathy upon the passing of his mother.

ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Serus moved that we adjourn; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Following refreshments kindly provided by Barbara Robinson, Louise Burr shared her collection of vintage childhood toys.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary