

**Oxford Historical Society
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 17, 2015**

The Homestead

Please bring a copy of these minutes to our next Executive Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 15.

Present: Louise Burr, Richard Crane, Dorothy DeBisschop, Nancy Farnum, Cindy Joy, Marilyn Serus, Marilyn Stebar. **Absent:** Barbara Robinson. **Guest:** Eleanor Sturges

President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the minutes of the October 20, 2015 meeting be approved as corrected; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – Cindy noted that we need more copies of "Images of Oxford" to sell. Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's report be approved; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom – Jan Galloway has been her twice working with Christine Wilkinson. The warp threads are through the heddles, and now will be put through the supply and take up wheels. They will be meeting on Thursdays. The loom will be moved closer to the side and front walls when we have manpower to shift it to make it easier to get in the closet. The case containing the old reed and shuttle needs a brief description inside. Richard Crane volunteered to build a stand to support it on the floor under the loom with an explanatory sign.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – We have received 3 new memberships.

Museum Open Hours Report – On November 1 we had 2 guests. On November 15, there were 3 visitors, including Paul Aiksnoras who loaned us a stoneware jug and a half-gallon churn for display.

Nominations Committee Report – Cindy Joy and Marilyn Serus – The slate of Officers for 2016 will be voted on at our general meeting on November 23. The maintenance committee was discussed. Fred Rowland, Bob DeBisschop and Ed Rowland have volunteered, and Rob Robinson says he would be willing to help out. No one wants to be chairman. Dorothy DeBisschop suggested we let the group work out how they will manage the projects. Marilyn Serus suggested a maintenance book where problems are noted. The Executive Board will have to check it and find solutions to the problems.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Longtime Residents Videotapes – Marilyn Stebar, Marilyn Serus, Dorothy DeBisschop – No report.

Permanent Museum Sign – Marilyn Stebar – Jack Konicki and Ron Stebar are meeting tomorrow. Ron compared prices on posts at Oxford Lumber and Lowes or home Depot.

“Early Houses of Oxford” Revision – Marilyn Stebar – Another meeting was held. There is a plan in place for a chain of responsibilities. We will arrange entries by street numbers. Nancy Farnum is working with Brandon Whitburn on newspaper publicity. Richard and Christine Crane are completing work locating additional information on specific houses.

Kitchenette Possibilities – Nancy Farnum – Nancy has not heard from Ed Rowland re: the electrician’s estimate. Richard Crane checked cabinets at Home Depot and Lowe’s and reported that top and bottom cabinets and a countertop could be had for approximately \$300. The sink and faucets would be approximately \$150 for both. Dorothy DeBisschop recommended we set aside \$1,000 for materials and labor for this project.

Docents Needed for Upcoming Open Days – Nancy Farnum – a sign-up sheet was circulated.

Reprinting Litchfield’s “History of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut” – Dorothy DeBisschop – The first chapter is completed. Dorothy will post it on the web and ask members to proofread a chapter at a time.

Rollin Car Donation – Louise Burr – Phil Rowland, Bob Osborne and Will Revaz looked at the Rollin and felt it was far too big a project for us to complete. Cindy Joy reported that the insurance cost for the car was prohibitive and that we could not get insurance for the workers. We felt we cannot accept the donation, as it would be a financial and a storage burden. Nancy Farnum moved that with thanks and gratitude, we return the car to donor Elisha Burr Nyberg; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

Christmas Bazaar – Barbara Robinson and Marilyn Serus – Members can bring donations for the sale on November 23. Nancy Farnum requested that Dorothy DeBisschop e-mail the membership to ask for contributions. Marilyn Serus will work with Barbara Robinson to set up. We will request the Garden Club to decorate. Dorothy DeBisschop will present the video “Christmas in Connecticut” live on December 3. Nancy Farnum will work on newspaper publicity. Our exhibit will include Rob Buck’s antique Christmas ornaments and nativity scenes loaned by members of the Society.

Election Day Sales Booth at Quaker Farms School – Louise Burr – Louise commented that we did very well at this event and thanked all who worked or baked. Cindy Joy reported that sales totaled \$287.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Gift Basket Donation to the Friends of the Oxford Library Holiday Raffle – Marilyn Serus – Louise Burr thanked Marilyn Serus for creating the gift basket.

Tri-fold Corrections and Updates – Dorothy DeBisschop – Committee members submitted their information.

Sunday, February 7, 2016: Charlie Rippel: Lincoln Presentation

Sunday, February 21, 2016: Snow Date. If there is no program, we will ask Marcia Wrogg to exhibit her Lincoln memorabilia.

Program for the General Meeting – Marilyn Serus suggested “Thanksgiving memories”.

Refreshments for the General Meeting – Nancy Farnum volunteered to bring refreshments

Any Other New Business

Bylaws Revision – Article VII, Section B, Article 3 shall read: “Second Vice President – shall direct fundraising and development.”

Holiday Remembrance for Volunteer Gardener Laura Dion – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that Nancy Farnum be authorized to purchase a \$75 gift certificate for Laura Dion in recognition of her services to the Homestead; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Stebar moved that we adjourn; second by Richard Crane. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary