

Groton Historical Society  
Meeting of Tuesday, May 7, 2019

*At 6:00 a very enjoyable program was presented by Richard Montague. Fourteen people attended, and three brought old tools to be identified or to show. Lise Shallberg brought 3 kitchen tools, Altoon Sultan brought an old wooden tool from her barn, and Paula Emerson brought a beautiful wooden box with tiny drafter's tools. Dick then explained his interest in children's toys that are like tools, and demonstrated several that he has made. He also talked about some of the tools in the collection at the Peter Paul House. Thank you, Richard!*

The business meeting was called to order at 7:15.

Present: Deborah Jurist, Brent Smith, Phil Coutu, Lise Shallberg, Mark Shallberg, Richard Montague, Phyllis Burke

1. Treasurer's Report. Phil distributed copies of Treasurer Erik's report. Our balance as of May 7<sup>th</sup> is \$5,152.46. All approved with pleasure.
2. Minutes from our last business meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Lise moved to approve, Deborah seconded. All approved.

We also reviewed the minutes of the pre-season meeting of April 17, 2019, when we brainstormed ideas for proposed programs. Deborah would like to make one poster listing all the programs for the season. Seyon Lodge: Richard and Brent had ideas about folks who may know its history. Native Americans: Next week Phil will be taking some of us to a program sponsored by the Haverhill Historical Society. Richard suggested local tribes for information and contacts.

We sidetracked to a discussion of summer projects: Steps for the kitchen door and repair of the door. We have members who can't attend meetings because the step is too high. Dick, Mark, and Brent will work on steps and fixing the door.

Cataloguing PPH clothing. Phyllis would like to start this project this summer, and then consult our long-term members about the clothings' history. We will meet June 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 for a photo session. Phyllis will email reminders to interested members.

3. Election of officers: Lise moved to keep the same officers. Phil seconded. All agreed.  
Deborah – President  
Brent – Vice President  
Erik – Treasurer (Lise offered to help if needed, and Phil can help with membership spreadsheets)  
Phil – Secretary, with help from Phyllis (recording) and Lise (checking emails).  
Phil will continue with the thank you notes, and is caught up to date.
4. Advertising meetings: Deborah brought information about a sandwich board that can be purchased for \$150 to sit in front of the house. Brent moved, Phil seconded, to buy the sign. All approved. Phil or Erik will purchase with the debit card.

5. Mowing: Jim Winget is no longer mowing in Groton. Deborah suggested Ben Gandin. After some discussion, all agreed she should ask Ben if he'll do it for \$250.00, or what he would charge.
6. Cleaning the PPH: We agreed on a cleaning session the week before Fall Foliage, with windows washed before the June meeting (watch for hornets!). Lise asked who has keys. Deborah, Brent, Richard, and Erik and Phil.
7. Leaking toilet: Discussion of problem. Brent will check with Aaron about his schedule and will ask neighbor Frank to turn the water on. Deborah suggested fixing before June meeting. Brent and Mark will work on.
8. Daylilies. Deborah will bring daylilies to plant under the sign.
9. Programs: Discussion of program/meeting times and of schedule. All agreed on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month instead of 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday. Program at 6:00, meeting at 7:00.  
 Revised schedule:  
 June 11<sup>th</sup> - Bill Hodge, President of Topsham Historical Society, on genealogy resources (Phyllis)  
 July 9<sup>th</sup> - Old Main Street history and Morrison Hall (Erik and older members)  
 August 13<sup>th</sup> - Seyon Lodge history (Lise)  
 September 10<sup>th</sup> – Native American history (Phil)  
 Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. Fall Foliage Day – Display of PPH clothing, especially our collection of Victorian women's underclothes (Phyllis with ?)  
 October 8<sup>th</sup> – business meeting  
 The person organizing the program will arrange for refreshments and fix the sign board.

10: Cedars at the front of the house. Deborah said in the past Prentis Pratt has trimmed the trees, and asked for input on when. Concern was expressed that the cedars are holding moisture against the house, causing rot in the clapboards and trim around the front door. Concern was also expressed about whether or not the cedars were donated as a gift to the GHS. The suggestion was made that if the cedars were given in memory, we could plant something else to replace them.

The motion was made by Deborah, seconded by Lise, and approved by all to cut the cedars. Richard offered to cut and remove the wood.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.