

Groton Historical Society
Business meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Present: Deborah Jurist, President; Brent Smith, Vice President; Erik Volk, Treasurer; Mark Shallberg, Phyllis Burke, Dwaine Smith, Susan Pelkey Smith

Deborah called the meeting to order at 6:00, with thanks to Erik Volk and Phil Coutu for taking the society “from nothing to something” over the past five years they have been members. Erik and Phil will be moving soon to Monroe.

Treasurer’s Report. Erik distributed copies of his report as of October 8th. Total income to date since Jan. 4 2019 is \$870.00; total expenses, \$2,294.03. Only big expense since September is the insurance payment of \$889.00. Deborah added that Fall Foliage Day income was \$674.00, from memberships, donations, and the sale of calendars and books.

Election of treasurer. The society accepts with regret the resignation of Erik Volk as treasurer and Phil Coutu as secretary. Phil’s duties have already been assumed by Lise Shallberg and Phyllis Burke.

For position of treasurer, Deborah nominated Susan Pelkey Smith. Phyllis seconded the nomination. Unanimous approval was given at the vote.

Erik noted that the Well River Savings Bank will need a signed copy of these minutes in order to change the signers on our account number 781770. Signers will now be Susan Pelkey Smith and Deborah Jurist.

Community event. Deborah reported that the town’s library and recreation committee hope to make the annual Christmas visit of the S.D. Ireland lighted cement truck a community event. Would we like to participate? It will be the afternoon of Saturday Dec. 21st. We discussed how, whether, and where we could participate. The suggestion that we set up an area in the library seems the most practical, if the library approves.

Newsletter. Willard Benzie has finished the fall newsletter and Deborah is printing it. A long discussion followed about whether a membership form or fundraising letter should be included with the mailed newsletters, or mailed separately, and to whom each should be sent. In the end, Erik offered to print mailing labels, add email addresses to the membership list, and email the newsletter. The emailing and postal mailing of the 60 paper copies will happen during October. We will get together in early December to mail a membership letter to members and prospective members.

From Fall Foliage Day. Reg Welch spent time at the Peter Paul House, and talked to Deborah about his database for genealogy work. He also looked through our collection of unidentified photos, identified several of them, and has taken them home to scan. Phyllis also looked through them, and has identified a group from the Carter family.

Donation. Brent Smith donated a reproduction of the White Mountain Telephone and Telegraph Company Directory for 1909. Groton is the first of 4 towns listed, with names and telephone numbers of Groton customers. There are also ads from Groton businesses. This will be a nice addition to our vintage telephone in the kitchen. We voted unanimously to accept the donation.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Burke