

Groton Historical Society  
Business meeting at Deborah's house  
Wednesday, January 15, 2020  
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: Deborah Jurist, President; Susan Pelkey Smith, Treasurer; Lise Shallberg, Correspondence Secretary; Mark Shallberg; Phyllis Burke, Recording Secretary

1) Newsletter. Deborah distributed copies of the new Winter 2020 newsletter. Discussion of how to make old issues available. Groton Library would like a copy, so will be added to the list of complimentary lifetime members. Deborah was thinking of inserting slips in the newsletter to ask for donations for painting the house, and also a note re: membership renewal. Susan offered to design an insert and to check the membership list for expired vs paid members, so the insert could be used to try to get renewals.

2) Membership renewal letter and membership list. Lise reported that of the 80 letters that were sent with a s.a.s.e., only 15 responded, so perhaps that wasn't cost effective. Lise has been studying the membership list, and has questions about things that aren't clear.

Family membership: just husband & wife? Members with kids? Members with adult kids who live independently at different addresses? Some have no individual names. Are we using all names for membership count? We don't have accurate count, and it's hard to keep track. How to handle family memberships? How to handle lifetime memberships? Mark suggested we change family, perhaps to include children under 18, but can't do until next year.

Susan: So far no one has paid through credit card. How many annual members haven't paid? We counted – 49 not paid up for 2020. Next year, new membership structure.

3) Donations. Lise: How much have we received in donations for painting?  
Susan: general donations, \$755.00; painting, \$470.00. Deborah feels it's OK to use general donations for painting this year.

Suggestions for outreach for donations for painting: WRSB, Stuart Gates (Modern Woodmen), Groton Tire & Auto, Gandins, Groton Garage, Grant Trucking, Fred & Signa Braman, Martin Klein, Artesano, Powers Plumbing & Heating, Kersakin Adventures (Ken and Mary Smith), Ruth Meteer, Peter Lyon. Consult Brent for ideas.

Deborah: If we can raise \$2000.00 this year we'll do well. Could someone look at the tax maps for large landowners?

Fundraising idea from Lise: open house this summer at PPH for Lake Assoc. members and public, with program on Lake Groton. She could sell her large, laminated map that shows all the properties around the lake. It would also be a chance for folks to share information about their properties.

Lise: Any grants available? Deborah re: contacts: Tim Ashe? Chip Conquest? State Historical Society?

4) Programs/activities for the year

Deborah: What about hosting the Newmont Military Band? She'll send us a link for them.

Mark: An early spring hike at Seyon Pond to see the old fish hatchery?

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis E. Burke  
Recording secretary