

Groton Historical Society
Meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
in Shallberg's garage for social distancing

Present: Deborah Jurist, President; Lise Shallberg, Correspondence Secretary; Mark Shallberg, Tonya Palmer, Mike Gaiss, Phyllis Burke, Recording Secretary

We gathered at 6:30 to fold, staple, and address the summer newsletters, and enjoyed delicious refreshments provided by Lise.

Business meeting started at 7:20.

- 1) Minutes of the meeting of February 25, 2020. The minutes had been distributed before the meeting by e-mail. Treasurer Susan Pelkey Smith e-mailed a correction: that the Groton Lake Association's 75th anniversary celebration will be in 2021, not this year. Lise made a motion, seconded by Mike, that the minutes be approved with the correction. All approved.

- 2) Susan Pelkey Smith's Treasurer's Report dated 6/5/2020. All expressed pleasure with Susan's report format, and with our financial situation. Under expenses, Deborah wonders if we still need QuickBooks On-Line (\$240.00 annual fee) since we now have "Square" to process sales.

A discussion followed about the process for puzzle sales proceeds. Currently Lise passes the proceeds to Deborah, who records them. Credit cards can be used for purchases. A discussion followed about where to take the money for this first year's portion of the painting and repair project at the Peter Paul House. Treasurer Susan approves taking it from the operating funds. General income plus painting project donations total \$4126.65. Checking account balance as of 6/5/2020 is \$9,265.91. Deborah asked for a vote to take the \$6000.00 painting money from the checking account, and all approved.

This year, the front and east sides of the house will be painted, and the kitchen door will be replaced. Deborah has been working with Matt Nunn, who will do the job, to match the color of the original paint. He has us on his schedule.

- 3) Puzzle and book sales

Puzzles: Lise will explore if the Forest Store (State Forest) will take them, and maybe our books, to sell. Upper Valley Grill also a possibility right before the holidays. Fall Foliage: No decision yet from the Northeast Fall Foliage organization, or from Groton Community Club about if, and to what extent, the event will be held. Mike suggested exploring using Ven-mo to process sales when Treasurer Susan returns. He thinks we need a digital storefront for the sales. Lise has 13 puzzles left. We could buy 2 dozen for \$216: should she buy more? (We voted "yes" via email the next day, June 10th). Brainstormed ideas for a different design for another puzzle, and viewed samples from the puzzle company. Everyone liked the idea of a composite of different photos of Groton, superimposed with "Greetings From Groton." Photo sources suggested were Facebook for open-source photos, photos by Diane Frost or Peter Kimball. Deborah suggested asking Nicole Wolfgang if she would do a Christmas-theme version of her

Groton village painting. Lise will talk to the puzzle guy about design and format, and perhaps making the puzzle larger. We'll wait for his input.

Books: Deborah has Camping at the Pond as a Word document, which will make it easier for her to edit. Our project is to reprint it. People at the Lake want it, but their 75th anniversary celebration isn't until next year.

Mike suggested Groton ex-pats as a good customer base for the puzzles and books.

- 4) Summer plans. We decided to relax about programs this year. Phyllis would like to continue working on photographing and cataloguing the clothing collection. Mike suggested recording the memories of our elders using the new technology of cell phones. Deborah filled him in on what's been done in the past, and hopes that next year we can make a plan to safely spend time with our elders and record their memories. Lise has been working hard to organize and catalogue our collection of written memoirs and other family and town records stored at the Peter Paul House, and perhaps we can think about ways to share them with folks.
- 5) Meanwhile, we need to make money for next year's house painting and repair project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Burke