

Meeting agenda and notes from Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

In attendance: Deborah Jurist, Brent Smith, Dave Spencer, Mike Gaiss, Sarah Spira

Notes in Red Acted upon highlighted in Yellow

1. Do we want a holiday buying opportunity for folks since FFD was not very good for sales?

Open house. Ask Susan if the date works for her, and ask Jodi about a Library event to go along with an Open House

Sat. Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Ask Carrie about cement mixer Brent said he would help deliver stuff and Sarah said she would help also

Send Mike the updated order form

Brent will come to help out at the PPH

Sarah will help

Cheryl Le Tourneau (member) has offered to help.

Jodi will do a program on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. Perhaps Santa?

The Irish cement mixer is not planned, and it seems to be on the western side of Vermont on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Announcements in FB and sandwich sign.

Order forms attached

2. Mail in orders announced in Winter newsletter? How to manage this responsibility if we want to undertake it. There will probably be individuals who want items regardless of what we decide. How to manage this.

Julie Paton has told Phyllis she wants a Pond Booklet

We have had 3 inquiries already (11/14)

Thanks go to Lise Shallberg. Individuals are contacting her, because her contact info is on the website or they know her. She is giving them my phone number, and in one case took CC info and shipping address. This was for an order for a Mr. Glover's Groton which has been sent out.

Hoping to work some details out with Sarah on Thursday Nov 18th

3. Focus for 2022 possibilities we have talked about:

- a. Civil, WWI and WWII wars incorporating our uniform collection.

Metal detector, reenactment can we connect to a group that does the civil war re-enactments

- b. Histories of houses in Groton

Have a program on how to research the history of your old house .

How to document and share the history that you find Sarah offered to write something up for a newsletter including how to use property sales documents, how to do a title search

Reach out to other societies

Look at grandlist to find houses within certain dates?

Also would this help us figure out who to reach out to? 911 addresses

A cemetery walk "haunted"

Historical walking tour and use signs like the Peacham Historical Society

This would help to bring the activities outside, in more line with COVID precautions

Stone house: See if we could have a tour

Look into other "Taisey Brothers" houses

How does genealogy interconnect with the house histories?

=====Data base from Willard as a 2022 goal

Somehow combine War uniforms and old house history searches?

Update signage for artifacts/donations in the house

Plan a sale of things we want to get rid of next year? Perhaps have the Steenburgh's look at what we might be willing to part with? This way we can avoid a sale, but still clean things out.

2022 identify what can go, set parameters, put description to pictures

Have symposium approach to the season i.e. programs for the public.

4. Website > Discuss and make decisions about Terry Miller

a. Review notes

b. Discuss website goals

1. Prepare the table for 2022 newsletters

2. Put pictures of textiles on website

3. Fix pictures

4. Update info

5. Post video of Groton Pond talk

6. Remove old info

7. Add info about books etc.

8. Change contact info to email?

9. Change settings so the GHS email receives only info about pertinent wordpress and wordfence updates

10. Should we change from GoDaddy to another provider?

11. Should we pay about \$100 for an SSL certificate?

12. Are we happy with the "layout?"

13. Put a link on website to FB

14. How to slow progress of an organization. How to keep people on the website

15. Genealogy data base

16 template refresh and make it look brand new

17 google analytics

>We (Mike and Sarah) will clean up some of the health aspects of the site

Tell Terry we will look at the site and get back together with her later.

Terry understands the slow way an organization moves. She pointed out that she manages the Peacham Historical Society website. She explained that Peacham HS comes up with a theme for each year, and Terry updates the website with a new template based on the theme.

> 4. Membership letter and mailing to go out before Thanksgiving with newsletter Willard is at hunting camp until mid November. I will send him an announcement of the Open House for the newsletter. Once the order form and picture sheet are finalized we can print them and include them in the Winter Newsletter mailing. We can also announce the Open House in an email to members. We should also include membership reminders?

5. Accept telephone? From Betty Bouley Webster? **Phyllis had told me where the phone was but I couldn't find it.** Carrie Mable Dexter is her daughter in TN . Janet will get me address for a thank you note

Also review the clothing we have been given.

1) The first is a child's wool flannel petticoat donated on 8/28/21 by Kirk and Ellen Farquarson, who visited the PPH our open house. They are lake people, and live in N. Wilbraham Mass during the winter. The petticoat was from the home of John and Ruth Walker, Kirk's grandmother's sister and husband. The home/farm had been the Rich Tavern (built 1805) and is in North Montpelier. So, even though the petticoat is interesting in itself, it is not from Groton, and neither are the Farquarsons. Perhaps pass on to the VHS?

2) One of 2 items left in a bag on the PPH doorstep, around Oct. 12, with no info. enclosed. White cotton woman's bodice with ecru embroidery, c. 1890s. At first I thought it wasn't original, but now I think maybe it is. Someone like Theresa Greene would know.

3) Also in unidentified bag: white cotton woman's nightdress, small enough to be for a teen or small woman. Very nice. Very similar to the one was already have. these must date from the late 1800s, early 1900s. **We voted to accept**

6. Donation of Groton Pond Maps to Fire Dept and Town Assessor Office. **Deborah tried once to give the maps and ask about the game clock but the SB meeting was over attended for the size of the room and she couldn't attend. Will try again**