

## Raymond Historical Society Members' Meeting

Raymond Depot

Thursday, October 3, 2019

Traffic Light: New member Wayne Watjus wired the historical traffic light that was donated to the Society by Lyman Hammond Sr. The light is the first known traffic light in Raymond. At approximately 6:30 PM, In advance of the Society's regular monthly meeting, members of the Society and members of the public, including many members of the Hammond family gathered on the lawn near the light to witness the re-lighting of the signal. About 25 people turned out for the throwing of the switch. The light flashed through the amber colored lens. Shortly thereafter, the members and others moved into the Depot for the Society's monthly meeting.

Members present: Briget and Kim Prince, Joyce Wood, Kathy and David Hoelzel, Art Wolinsky, Carol and Wayne Watjus, Linda Hoelzel, Marge Desjardins, Sally and Roger Paradis, Kathy McDonald, and Betty Goldthwaite.

Chairman David Hoelzel opened the meeting at approximately 6:39 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

History of the light: Buster Hammond among other Hammonds was present. Buster reported that there were originally two of these lights in Raymond. One was located at the corner of Main and Church Streets, the other at the corner of Main and Epping Streets. Buster reported that these lights used to be known as "dummies". When no longer needed, his Dad salvaged one before it was thrown on the scrap heap and donated it to the Society. Wayne researched the company that manufactured the light. They were originally powered by acetylene gas; inside the cabinet for the light are the remnants of a bracket for a gas bottle.

Wayne has wired the light so that it is on a timer and the light flashes, although there is no evidence that the light flashed in its original operation.

Field Trip: Linda Hoelzel announce4d that she is organizing a field trip to the New England Document Center in Andover Massachusetts. The tour will start at 11 AM and take an hour to an hour and one half. No date has yet been set for the trip. Parties interested in joining the tour should contact Linda. The plan is to convoy to the site in private cars.

Boston Post Cane: Elsie Porter appears to be the next eligible cane holder. Hername has been supplied to the Board of Selectmen. A discussion ensued as to whether it is the Historical Society or the Selectmen presents the cane. Sally moved, seconded by Betty, that the Selectmen be asked to present the cane at a date to be determined, the motion passed by unanimous assent. Sally also noted that Elsie is the oldest living Raymond alumna.

Caboose update: Scott Knightly of Envirovantage has responded to David's inquiries about schedule, David sent a copy of his reply to the caboose committee. Mr. knightly still hopes \to have the job completed before the snow flies. Envirovantage is experiencing difficulty hiring help; the project may have to be deferred to spring of 2020, depending upon the weather. Art reported that he would like to document the process to include an interview with Mr. Knightly about his grandmother, a founding member of the Society.

Harvest Supper: the Harvest Supper will be on Saturday. October 19, 2019 at 6 Pm. Sally has confirmed the Congregational Church hall is available on that date for our supper. Joyce will bring the turkey and gravy, Betty will bring sweet potatoes, Sally will bring apple crisp; Marge mashed potatoes;, Kim stuffing, Hoelzels will bring whatever is needed; Briget pumpkin cheesecake; Marge dinner rolls; Art glazed carrots; Carol, sterno chaffing dishes. Sally will coordinate the dinner contributions. David has asked Linda and Dana to give a short presentation at the harvest Supper; Art may present slides or a video.

Gile School Eagle Scout Project. The project is not yet complete. David has followed up with the Scout Masters. Sally moved, seconded by Art that David write to the scout, Sean Forestall, suggesting that he may not be awarded his Eagle if the Society has to complete the project on its own. There is bare wood on the Gile School that should not be left unprotected through the winter. The letter should set a time limit for completion. The motion passed by unanimous assent.

Acknowledgements: David suggested that the Society dedicate the 'line house' (also called the section house or tool museum) in memory of Steve "Goldthwaite by installing a plaque to that effect. Betty suggested that could be done at the Society's Annual Meeting in May. David also suggested that the Society install a granite bench and planters in front of the Gile School.

Minutes: Kathy moved, seconded by Briget to accept the minutes of the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion passed by unanimous assent.

Fundraising report: Marge reported that the chili cook-off raised \$255 and the bake sale \$246 (Need to confirm these figures with Marge).

Kitchen curtains: Carol Watjus offered to make curtains to cover the shelving in the kitchen. She brought a variety of fabric samples. The current curtains are made of cheap plastic table cloths The members preferred the red and gold fabric.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Wood, Secretary