

## Raymond Historical Society Member's Meeting

7 November 2019

Raymond Depot

Members Present: David and Kathy Hoelzel, Marge Desjardins, Joyce Wood, Art Wolinski, Kathy McDonald, Deb McNelly, Sally and Roger Paradis, Brigit and Kim Prince, Wayne Watjus, Dana Zulager

President David Hoelzel opened the meeting at approximately 6:36 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Traffic Light Update: The flashing feature has been turned off the light is steady.

Minutes: Art moved, seconded by Brigit to approve the minutes of the October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 meeting. The motion passed by unanimous assent.

Christmas Lights: When he re-wired the old traffic light, Wayne also installed an outlet next to the evergreen on Depot Road, frequently referred to as Tommy's tree. That outlet if used for Christmas lights on Tommy's tree would operate on the same timer, 5 PM to midnight as the traffic light. Kathy M reported that there are strings of Christmas light in the caboose, (these are the old fashioned large bulb strands. Kathy H moved, seconded by Marge to light Tommy's tree using the lights that the Society already has, the motion passed by unanimous assent. Wayne will examine the lights on the eaves of the depot to determine their operability.

Harvest supper: David thanked everyone who helped to make the supper a success.

Tree lighting on the Common: Once again, the Historical Society will offer hot chocolate and cookies following the tree lighting on the common. Marge reported that last year's lighting took place at 6 PM; shre will start the hot water for the cocoa in time for tree lighting guests to arrive. She further reported that this year's tree lighting is scheduled for December 8, 2019.

Historical Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary: In 2020 the Society will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Society hopes to have the Gile School painting project completed; David also expressed a desire to install two plaques: one on the Gile School memorializing Edith Hammond, and one on the Section House tool museum dedicated to Steve Goldthwaite.

Depot Repairs: Roger Paradis and Dick Bilodoux will work on the door to the Gile School repair it so that it closes properly. One of the windows in the caboose was out; possibly blown in by the wind. , Wayne repaired that; the roof was leaking. The artifacts need to be removed and inventoried.

Apothecary Sign: Matt Case, son of Frank Case donated the hand carved mortar and pestle apothecary sign from Raymond Drug. It Is currently being stored in the Gile School. Sally suggested that it be hung on the archives room near the apothecary cabinet, Sally made a motion to this effect, seconded by Kathy H.; the motion passed by unanimous assent.

Boston Post Cane: Kathy H proposed to the Selectmen, that Elsie Porter be the next recipient of the cane. The BOS approved this recommendation. A ceremonial presentation will be held at Torrent Hall in the Safety Complex on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 1 PM. Elsie's family will supply the refreshments, The BOS has agreed to pay for a plaque listing the past cane holders. Kathy M. moved, seconded by Brigit, that the Society expend up to \$25 for flowers for Elsie; the motion passed by unanimous assent. The cane has been presented to past holders with the understanding that it would be returned when the holder passed away. The Society has had difficulty recovering the replica canes from previous holder's families; the original cane is in the Society's possession. The replicas are missing and would be expensive to replace. Elsie will be presented with a plaque recognizing her status as the honorary cane holder. The plaque will be her keepsake and will be customized to her.

Fundraising: David will distribute a list to members of fundraising ideas for member's consideration. It was suggested that the Society hold a jail and bail type fundraiser. The Society could use its location on the rail trail to sell ice cream sundaes. It was decided that Abigail's Attic fundraiser is too much work and there are not enough volunteers to do that work.. Marge reported that the Society's insurance premium has increased to \$3,000; this a huge portion of our annual budget which is typically in the range of \$5,000 to \$6,000. She reported that the go fund me page has raised \$690 to date, but we have not yet received those funds. December 3<sup>rd</sup> is Giving Tuesday; Art will look into this. Joyce suggested that the Society also investigate participating in NH Gives Day, which usually occurs in early June.

Kitchen: Putting curtains over the kitchen shelves is a nice idea, but is insufficient; those shelves and drawers need to be cleaned out and unused and underused items be disposed of. Sally moved, seconded by Art that the Society set aside \$1,500 for new kitchen cabinets; the motion passed by unanimous assent.. Kathy M will donate a refrigerator to replace the old one now in the kitchen; she will take measurements to see if the one she has will fit in that spot. Sally and Marge will talk to the cabinet maker on Old Manchester Road to see what he would do about providing new cabinets. Kathy H will let Carol know that her offer of curtains for the shelving is no longer needed.

Event idea: Cemetery walk; re-enactors would play and give the history of the person buried in the graves; Another idea: re-enact Fullerton's tour of Raymond; this idea came up for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, but was not followed through. Several years back Fritz Bell and Will Fregosi printed a walking tour of Raymond flyer; this could be updated. It was suggested that the Society present an exhibit of materials on the Bartlett family, some of whose descendants still live in Raymond.

Joyce moved to adjourn, seconded by Brigit. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Wood, Secretary

