

Falmouth Historical Society Minutes

September 18, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM

Present were: Fred Howe, Ron Scorsone, Erin Cadigan, Sue and Dave Farnham,

Absent were: Rick Parker, Rich Meserve and Betsy Whitcomb

Secretary's Report

The August minutes were approved by the Board.

Membership is unchanged since August (102).

The number of members pending renewal this month is 43. David and Sue will print and send out renewal packets.

Treasurer's Report

Cash on hand is \$4,539.20 (the water bill was auto-paid after the report was printed). We have \$33,364.23 with the Foundation.

David will send the W-9 to Melissa Tryon at Town Hall.

David is still working on the 2017-2018 budget. Getting the 2015-16 books "audit ready" is also awaiting his attention; the state sent him a reminder that they want the figures for our charity license. He also needs to file our tax returns.

David was able to buy *Quickbooks* at a 40% discount and will install it after he has gotten the taxes caught up.

Old Business

Catalog. Ron recommended that we go with *Past Perfect*. Preliminary tests show that *Past Perfect* is a better fit for our needs than *History IT*. It will cost \$1,850 for first year with online presence (\$1,700 without) and \$662 per year thereafter. This includes the multimedia upgrade (adds images and video - \$225), and online module (\$310). Board unanimously approved discontinuing work with *History IT* and switching to *Past Perfect*.

Museum Maintenance. Fred and Ron have power washed most of the north wall and the deck, and it looks a lot better. The Boy Scout project to rebuild the deck/ramp is not going to happen. We need to repair the ramp, especially the railings, post caps, and the hand rails. PVC hand rails and plastic or copper post caps are proposed. There is the question of doing something with the doors – power washing will take the paint off the doors- do we do it now or later? There is an option of building a screen door for the upper half of the Dutch back door which can also be fitted with glass for the winter. The Board approved going ahead with the PVC hand rail and post caps.

Replacement Sign. Board voted to proceed ahead with the new sign and place it perpendicular to the street where it will be more visible. Many people have reported not seeing the current sign.

Driveway. David will contact John Adelman, who runs Riverside recycling about obtaining asphalt reclaim for the driveway after he calculates the amount of area to be done.

Falmouth 300. Erin reporting on upcoming events:

- There will not be another Quaker presentation.
- West Falmouth tour “dry run” has taken place. There are a lot of sights on Blackstrap and Hurricane Valley roads. The tour will

take place on Wednesday, Sep 26. Erin has volunteered to host. She has a lot of food for it and will also have cider . The repeat tour will be October 17.

- Jeanne is looking at Oct-Nov for the cemetery presentation and launch of the Falmouth Cemetery Guide hosted by Falmouth Library.
- The Harvest Moon Farm Party to benefit Falmouth Land Trust is Sept 27.
- Audubon's Apple Day is Oct 6.
- The Annual Falmouth Fire-EMS Open House and Touch-a-Truck at Central Station on Bucknam Road is Oct 13.
- The Harvest Supper and History of the Congregational Church is October 18 at the church. They do not advertise much as a lot of people attend this multimedia event.
- The Police Department Open House is Oct 27. Children can come dressed up for Halloween. We could be open and give out Halloween candy.
- Incorporation Day is Sunday Nov 11 at 2pm in the high school theater.

Annual Meeting. It is now scheduled for October 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Chambers. We will ask Wayne Cobb, Marge Devine, and Larry Dyhrberg to present short talks on researching Falmouth history. If they decline, our backup plan will be to do something here instead, such as talk about how to use our facility.

No terms are lapsing this year but we should have better representation from the membership. Donna Little and Sheri Fistal are good candidates to invite to join the Board.

There will be one more meeting before the Annual Meeting, where we will present the budget for the coming year, have elections for new

board members, and present plans for what we are hoping to do in the future. We will also be developing a collections policy and have plans to review our collections.

New Business

Thoughts were voiced on involving youth groups such as the high school and the Girl Scouts in future service projects. This will be discussed more in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Farnham, Secretary