

Dummerston Historical Society
Minutes of Annual Meeting
January 21, 2021

Call to Order and Welcome: Due to the Covid 19 virus, this meeting was held over Zoom. President Muriel Taylor welcomed all and called the business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were nearly 40 persons participating, including all eight Board members, many members and guests. A list of attendees (at least those apparent on the Zoom screen) is attached to these minutes. A quorum was duly noted.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes of January 2020 Annual Meeting: Chuck Fish read the minutes of the January 2020 Annual meeting which included a recap of 2019 activities: January – Theresa Maggio – Behind the Pie, April – Al Fantini – History of SIT, July – Dan Snow – Stone Pounds, and October – Mike Clough on Vermont Wildlife. Chuck commented that the Jan 2020 meeting was the last time a quarterly meeting was held in 2020 as the remainder of the quarterly meetings were cancelled due to the Covid 19 virus.

Recap of 2020 Events/Activities:

Muriel provided a recap of 2020 activities; The Directors met monthly via Zoom and in small groups on Fridays until it was no longer safe to meet to work on organization of the Society's artifacts, an "inventory in process" for "everything in its place". Much work has occurred on the Carol Bessette albums and assembling Covered Bridge information. As a money saving effort, the Society is using email as much as possible to share news and announcements and encourages everyone who has access to email to be sure DHS has it.

Moisture problems in the building have been for the most part resolved due to installation of gutters, grading around the building and installation of dehumidifiers. Many thanks are due to Bob Taylor and Kevin Ryan for all of their hands on work, their problem solving skills and their constant monitoring of the systems.

Plans for 2021: Inventory work will continue as there is still much work to be done, particularly since the Society was honored to be given much of Carol Bessette's collection compiled over many years. Based on the success of this meeting, quarterly meetings will be held by Zoom until in-person meetings are safe.

Treasurer's Report: Jody Normandeau reported that as of 12/31/2020, the operating account balance was \$7,923.05, and the capitol fund balance was \$14,262.52, for a total of \$22,185.57. Both Jody and Muriel thanked the many donors for their support this year, and also the residents of the Town of Dummerston for the \$2,500 received this past year, the final part of the \$5,000 donation passed at the 2019 Town Meeting.

Presentation of the 2021 Budget: Jody presented the budget for 2021 which was developed by the Board and approved at its January 2021 Directors' meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Tribute to Jody Normandeau: Jody has submitted her resignation as Treasurer after holding that position for many years; her budget work, record keeping and organization was recognized by all.

Nomination and Election of Officers & Directors: Sallie May presented and nominated the following slate for election:

President: Muriel Taylor	Term expires January 22
Vice Pres: Sara Ryan	Term expires January 22
Secretary: Chuck Fish	Term expires January 22
Treasurer: Ruth Hoffman	Term expires January 23

The term for the Treasurer is typically three years, but Ruth is being nominated to complete the term being vacated by current Treasurer Jody Normandeau, which would expire in January 2023.

Board Director: Jody Normandeau Term expires January 24

Sallie also asked if there were any nominations from the floor for any of the positions. There were none. It was moved and seconded that an unanimous vote for all of the above be cast. It was approved, all the above were elected.

There being no other business, and no additional comments from the membership, the business meeting was concluded.

Program: Chuck Fish spoke on “Kipling in Vermont” – his four years in Vermont: Why he came, why he left, what he thought of Vermonters, and how his deepest political instincts clashed with American convictions.

Following the presentation, there were many comments and questions, all which will most likely lead to additional studies and programs. The program on Zoom concluded at approximately 8:45 pm.

Submitted by Gail Sorenson
Acting Secretary

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