

Sheldon Historical Society
Board of Directors meeting
July 16, 2024
6:30pm

AGENDA

1. Secretary's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Slate of Officers : Election
 - President - Open
 - Vice President - DiAnne Crane
 - Secretary - Andy Crane
 - Treasurer - Kerri Churchill
4. Building Committee
5. Events Committee / Fundraisingscreen Jay Craven film/Ethan Allen?
6. Collections Committee
8. Display Committee
9. Finance Committee / Finishing report
- 10 . Media
11. Large Donor Recognition
- 12 . What needs to be done this summer - what help is needed
- 13 . Other

In the absence of president Brent Garrow, V. President DiAnne Crane convened the meeting at 6:30. Board Members present include Andrew Crane (sec), Celeste Kane-Stebbins (treas), Harold Smith, Robert Norris, Don McFeeters, Lori Derry, Bryan Derry, Kerri Churchill. Also present, Fern Mercure.

Mr Crane had circulated minutes of the June meeting via email. Printed copies were distributed. On a motion by Mr Derry/Mr Smith 2nd, the minutes were accepted without objection or changes.

The presiding officer called for the election of officers. Mr Garrow declines to serve another term as president. Other board members were reluctant to stand for that office; in the absence of a willing candidate, Mr Crane nominated Ms Crane, vp; Mr Crane, secretary, Ms Churchill, Treasurer. With no further nominations, the board elected the abbreviated slate unanimously. The secretary is directed to send Mr Garrow a letter of appreciation for his many years of service.

The treasurer's report (qv) was presented by Ms Kane-Stebbins. Mr Crane expressed the board's appreciation for Ms Kane-Stebbins service, as she resigns her responsibilities as treasurer. Ms Kane-Stebbins will work with Ms Churchill to facilitate the transition. Ms Churchill observed that it would be appropriate and prudent to conduct an audit of Society accounts at this transition. Mr Crane/Ms Derry 2nd, moved to accept the treasurer's report

These minutes shall authorize the Peoples Trust Company to delete Ms Kane-Stebbins, and add Ms Churchill to the several Sheldon Historical Society, Inc accounts held in that institution, with every authority previously accorded to Ms Kane-Stebbins, effective immediately.

Mr Crane, for the Building Committee, remarked that the Bruhn Grant-funded projects are nearing completion. Finish work on the ramp and exterior enclosed stairway continues. The Selectboard has decided to shift responsibility for the second floor rehabilitation payables to the Society, rather than burden the Town's treasurer with

that additional accounting detail. The Society is asked to submit a request for the transfer of \$24,885, authorized by the Selectboard at their March 25, 2024 meeting, to the Sheldon Historical Society, to pay anticipated costs of the rehabilitation project, as outlined in the 3/25/24 proposal. No Board action was deemed necessary, and Mr Crane will submit the request to the Selectboard.

Ms Mercure spoke for the Event Committee, noting that the Barn Quilt presentation will be held at the building July 25th, with 16 registered participants. Additional tables and chairs will be needed to accommodate all attendees, and existing exhibits will be temporarily dislocated. The August 8th ice cream social was discussed, with board members asked to indicate areas in which they could help. Calcutta plans are well underway, with 8 sponsorships already in hand. The silent auction inventory is building, but additional quality, high-value items are still sought. Next Calcutta meeting will be Tuesday, July 23rd. Committee members include: Mr Garrow, Ms Mercure, Mr Bennett, Mr Parent, Ms Derry, and Mr McFeeters.

Ms Mercure noted West Rock has committed to make an annual donation of \$1,000 to the Society's operating budget.

Mr McFeeters noted his continuing Collection Committee efforts to organize, digitize, and catalog Society assets.

Mr Smith reported as the Media committee: work on the website continues. A cost/benefit analysis would be instructive, given limited traffic to our website and Facebook sites. The website does have an important capacity to warehouse data.

For the Exhibit Committee, Ms Crane spoke briefly about the need to shape the 2025 headline exhibit, and invited the board's participation.

Ms Crane asked for discussion on the "large donor recognition" item included on the agenda. No proposal was offered, and the issue –discussed at length previously- will be revisited at a later date.

Discussion about the work needed to be done this summer was raised. Mr Crane suggested that the Building Committee continues to struggle with limited volunteer engagement, but welcomes help at any level.

Given the heat and the lateness of the hour, Ms Crane recognized a motion to adjourn at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Crane, secretary