

Salisbury Historical Society
May 17, 2022
6pm

Our first meeting of the 2022 season featured the winner of our annual scholarship. Emily Thomas read her essay on Charles Darwin, followed by refreshments. Congratulations to Emily, who plans to attend the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, in the fall.

There were 14 members in attendance for the business meeting.

Minutes from our September 21, 2021, annual meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

David Rapalyea presented the year's budget to date. Our checking account currently has \$207.55. Our 2022 budget is \$9,854 and expenses so far total \$5,185.75, the lion's share being insurance and utilities.

Action item: Voted to transfer \$2,000 from the investment account to the checking account to cover bills outstanding until Old Home Day in August.

The Members' Booklet paid for itself and a bit more thanks to donations by area businesses. The total cost was \$372.36 and we received \$400 in donations.

The Scholarship Fund has \$6,027.51, with income so far this year of \$800. The complete Treasurer's Report is attached. It was accepted as presented.

Trustee Report

Diana Celmer reported that our account stands at \$96,541.66 after a Q1 loss of \$2500. Our investments are conservative, but the pandemic and inflation have adversely affected the stock market overall. We are not panicking and will stay the course. Our account was opened in January, 2020.

Membership Report

David Rapalyea said dues are trickling in, partly because this year's Members' Booklet was mailed a bit later than last year. We have 147 current members including lifetime, contributing, family and individual. Approximately 45% are lifetime members.

Curator's Report

Linda Denoncourt explained three new donations this year: Newspaper articles and a cartoon about a reported sighting of "Bigfoot" in Salisbury in 1984, a display of which is in the Museum; three hand-beaded items from the Victorian Age to 1960, also in the Museum; and a record of Salisbury school reports from 1805-1872, which is in a new display of a schoolroom in the Meetinghouse. Many thanks to Rose Cravens for her help with displays.

Meetings/programs

President Dave Merwin noted that our June 21 meeting will feature Paul Wainwright speaking on New England Colonial Meetinghouses. After our annual cookout and open house on July 19, we are looking to have a program presented by the Aviation Museum in Londonderry on New Hampshire African-Americans serving during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars plus World War I and the presence of these airmen at Grenier Field in Manchester, now the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport. President Merwin is negotiating the cost of this program, but all agreed it sounds good, particularly if we can tie it in with our Pvt. Haskell, whose official burial ceremony has yet to happen.

Bylaws

Although this was on the agenda, it was tabled. The Executive Board will consider changes and bring them to the membership at a future meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Cindy Owen is coordinating docents for the Museum, which will open Sundays 1-3pm from May 29 until September 4, with the exception of Old Home Day weekend, when we will open the Museum on Saturday, August 13. She circulated a calendar for volunteers to sign up and plans to have a training session before the opening day. How the alarm system will be handled is being worked out. Agreed we need a new sandwich board and perhaps another 'Open' flag.

David Rapalyea noted we will continue membership in the NH Historical Society for \$50. He also received two bids for power-washing. The first was for \$600 to do the Museum, which need painting, and the second was for \$200 to do the front of the Meetinghouse before Old Home Day. No action was taken.

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, June 21, at 6pm in the Meetinghouse.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Henry, Secretary