

# Bethel Historical Society

August 3, 2009, Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Nick Nikolaidis at 7:00pm in the conference room at the Paradigm Building.

Members in Attendance:

Helen Miller, Richard & MaryAnn Church, Rosella Leonard, Nick Nikolaidis, Don Brown, Don Hyde, Louise and Lorraine Putnam, Kevin Flynn, Becky Farmer, Janet Burnham, Bill & Francis Johansen

Secretary's Report: The report was read and accepted

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer was not present. Nick has collected a total of \$153.60 to deposit into the Mascoma checking from the sale of books. Membership dues continue to come in and are right on target. In our next newsletter mailing, all who still owe their 2009 dues will have a blue sticker on the front of the newsletter.

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## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Kevin has contacted Adam Boyce regarding scheduling a future performance by the NE Fiddler's for a fund raiser. Adam referred him to the current President, Lee Deyette. Lee seemed very interested. It was suggested that we invite Lee to our next regular meeting, September 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss a spring 2010 performance.
- Mike Mills had donated \$250.00 as a gift to WHS Alumni Assoc. to help get an online searchable date base of WHS graduates started. Unfortunately, no one from the WHS Association has returned our calls. We will continue to attempt to contact them to resolve this issue. Update at next meeting.
- Maryanne had brought in an item given to her by Tom Brennan wanting to know what it was. The item was identified by Don Hyde and Don Brown as an item used in separating Flax stems to make fine linen. A similar item with shorter nails was used to separate or comb wool for making yarn.
- Bill Johansen reported finding a piece in an old newspaper regarding a piece of Bethel White Granite that had been sent to the Centennial Celebration being returned to Guy Wilson. He had it displayed in his office. Bill asked if anyone knew what had happen to the item. No one seemed to recall.
- Safety Deposit Box at Mascoma – The issue of needing this box was raised again by Nick. The only item in the box was the letter containing the map to the Time Capsule buried in the Common. The yearly fee for the box is \$35.00 and seems to be a waste if that is the only item in it. The question of opening the letter to see what exactly it says was raised due to the fact that none in attendance tonight will be alive when it is scheduled to be opened, 2079. A vote was called. All were in favor of opening the letter with the exception of Don Hyde. The letter will be opened at our next meeting.

### **New Business:**

- White River Valley Historical Fair – schedule August 15<sup>th</sup> at WHS in Bethel. Everything is going well. We need 60 tables to accommodate all participating Historical Societies. Set up will be Friday afternoon 3:00pm to 7:00pm. All expenses will be split evenly between all participating societies after the event. The total spent so far is \$225.00. It was decided to pay John Hubble, WHS custodian, \$250.00 for all of his help and time. Our BHS booth will consist of three displays: The Two Marys, Peavine Railroad, and the Plank wall House. Don Hyde needs to examine ahead of time the Peavine and Plank wall House to see if they need any repairs or sprucing up. Don has also taken care of labor to set up and take down the displays. He has gathered some High School students willing to help. We will also have tables set up to sell books, and other BHS items along with a table for the Civil War display for Charlie Fairbanks. Bill and Frances have volunteered to man BHS table, George the Charlie Fairbanks table, Maryanne and Rose to dress up as the two Marys, and Janet, Louise and Loraine, Don and Don to help out with answering questions for our exhibits. Rose will contact the WR Players to see about borrowing some costumes for herself and Maryanne. Don Hyde had suggested having Chris Costanza write a large article for the Herald including pictures to document this event after. All were in favor of the idea. Nick noted that an advertisement for the History Fair will be in this weeks Herald and a large article in next week's.

### **Special Programs –**

- Gary Wood – August Cook Woodprint Program. Scheduled September 17<sup>th</sup>
- Joseph Smith Program – Set date for sometime on a Thursday after the 17<sup>th</sup> of September
- Eric Richardson – the Maynard Brothers Painting
- Megan Morse – she has been doing her college thesis on George Guernsey architecture. Janet has been talking to her and has had Megan help identify the type of building some of the pictures she has are. Janet currently has enough pictures to do a book.
- Bill is still working on the Italian book . So far the book has 12 chapters. He is still looking for more information to tie everything together. Anyone interested in helping or who has any ideas on who he can contact for more information, please contact Bill Johansen.

The next regular meeting scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at the Paradigm Building.

The meeting was closed at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted;

Rosella A. Leonard

8/2/09