

November 3, 2008

Historical Society 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:

Janet Burnham, Rosella Leonard, Nick & Heidi Nikolaidis, Don Brown, Louise and Loraine Putnam, Kevin Flynn, Kent Batcheller, Becky Farmer

Secretaries Report: The report was read and accepted

Treasurers Report: We currently have 2 CD's with Mascoma Savings. The first was taken out 4/6/07 in the amount of \$3,000.00. As of 4/17/08 the value of this CD was \$3,135.00. It rolled over 6/06/08. Kent was not sure what the value was at that time. The second CD was taken out 7/11/07 in the amount of \$1,500.00. As of 9/22/08 the value was \$1,568.21. It also has rolled over, 10/11/08. The current value Kent was also not sure of. The total we have in our Checking Account at Mascoma is \$2,741.78. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- On October 26th Kent Batcheller presented a program on his father's inventions and patents. The Presentation was very well received. A new member signed up after the Presentation. Mr. Sam Izzo.
- November 2nd The Adam Boyce Program in East Bethel was also very well received. It was thought we should have another "Fiddler Program" next year.
- November 9th John Dutton will be presenting a program on Fort Fortitude. The program will begin at 2:00pm at the Paradigm Consulting Building in downtown Bethel.

New Business:

- December 15th will be our Annual Historical Society Christmas Party. It will be at the Paradigm Consulting Building at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be provided. All are invited to bring an unusual, inexpensive and creative gift to exchange. If You wish to bring goodies to share; this would be greatly appreciated also. Come Share your favorite Christmas story or item and help decorate our tree.
- Post Card & History Fair – In the past neither the school (WHS) or the custodian (Mr. Hubble) has charged us for use of the gym. Nick has suggested we purchase 6 – 6" tables to donate to the school. He has talked to Lang at Bethel Mills as to the cost for the tables. Lang estimates the cost to be between \$35.00 to \$40.00 each. Janet made a motion for the BHS to purchase and donate these tables to WHS. The motion was approved. In the past the BHS has made money on this event. Year 1, we raised \$1,000 through the sale of tables to vendors and fees

from historical displays of area businesses. Year 2, we raised \$1,200 through tables, displays, and sales of ads in our Bethel Program. The program was very well received. Next year Nick would like to see this event even more successful and larger than in years past. He envisions more for people to see and participate in. In addition to the many Postcard Dealer tables, he envisions more exhibits. An exhibit of the Bethel Schools and a President Calvin Coolidge exhibit will be added. He has contacted appraiser Archie Steinberg to do a "Bethel Antique Road Show". A Flea Market outside, at no charge to participants, under the canopy for people to find some interesting treasures. Nick was not sure if we really wanted to do the program again this year. Even though it was well received last year, he did not feel we should ask the area businesses again this year to purchase ads as we have the last two years. Advertising would definitely include postcards and posters as last year. The date for this event has been set for May 23, 2009. Kevin Flynn has asked to help take the fees from people participating in the appraisal program.

- January 11th- the BHS Annual Meeting. This years meeting will be at the Paradigm Consulting Building at 2:00pm. After the business meeting we will again have a feature speaker. This year's speaker will be Prof. Robert Bagdan. He will be speaking on "Looking at Life in Small Towns down through the years through Old Post Cards"
- Special Meeting Idea's for 2009 - A couple of ideas we talked about for special Programs for next year. A Lake Champlain Program was discussed along with checking into the Humanities Council Programs for ideas. If anyone has something they would like to see presented please contact Nick.
- We have several new books coming out soon. The George Guernsey book, Bill & Frances Johansen's book on the Italian's of the Flats. Another idea would be Bethel the 20th Century. Janet has asked all members to make a list of notable, interesting pieces of Bethel History to put into this book. Talk to your family members for old stories to include.
- Rose is interested to putting together a Valley Quest for Camp Brook. Janet Suggested contacting a teacher at school to get a class interested in researching the history of Camp Brook or even working on the quest itself. Rose will check into this and report back at the next meeting.

Schedule of Regular Meeting for 2009:

- January 11
- February 2
- March 2
- April 6
- May 4
- June 1
- July 13
- August 3
- September 14

- October 5
- November 2
- December 14

An important item needing to be addressed at our next meeting will be donating money to the Paradigm Consulting Firm. We do not pay rent per se for our space downstairs or for the room we hold our regular and/or special meetings in. In lieu of this it has been proposed we donate a set amount of funds to help in the heating costs of the building for the winter. Further discussion will take place at our December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted;
Rosella A. Leonard

