

The Falmouth Historical Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Zoom Meeting—March 2, 2021

The meeting came to order at 6:40 p.m. Present were Betsy Whitcomb, Carol Kaufmann, David Farnham, Rich Meserve, Ron Scorsone, Sally Farneth, and Sue Farnham.

Secretary's Report

Minutes. Draft minutes will be circulated for review by the Board.

Membership. The February mailing went out to 88 households. Everyone received a newsletter. The packets also included tax letters and preprinted renewal forms, as appropriate. Response to the renewals has been good and our census is up to 90 which is close to where it is normally. We had been double-counting sponsors as household members since April 2020; the numbers in this month's report are correct.

Treasurer's Report

Finances. With the income from membership renewals, we are close to having enough cash in our operating accounts to make it through the fiscal year. We will withdraw funds from savings for the next fiscal year in May or June; the amount will depend upon the estimated expenses to reopen the Museum in July.

The Society has a balance of \$5,254 in its operating accounts and \$17,759 with the Foundation. Our accounts payable is \$230.01.

Our year-to-date expenses are tracking a smidge under budget. Our projected fiscal year-end balance is \$87 under target.

Committee Reports

Programs. Sally reported that she and Betsy were meeting with teachers at Falmouth Elementary the next day to discuss the school-age educational materials she has been developing.

Museum Operation & Exhibits. Betsy is working on the list of materials we need to obtain for compliance with State guidance for reopening the Museum.

Collections.

Catalog. Ron has completed entering data for 2007 (including the 35 maps) as well as 2008 except for 20-30 items where legibility on the accession records had been a problem.

There was a short discussion about attribution of materials in the Arcadia book.

Local History. We responded to three queries from the community last month. Carol asked how we were saving the responses of examples of solid research. David said edited versions (removing personal information regarding the person making the query) will be posted under the “Members Only” section of the Society website comprising Falmouth’s local version of “Finding Your Roots.” The responses include explanations on how we conducted the research with links to the places where we found relevant information.

Communications. The newsletter went out (at last!). A retrospective item on the donation of the two photographic portraits was posted on the Society website. There were two posts on Facebook.

Merchandise.

Cookbook. There were two meetings in February. The committee is making the first pass on the complete list of recipes. The newsletter included a call for additional recipes from the membership; those are due by March 15th.

Museum Buildings & Grounds. Nothing to report this month.

Technology. We added “people reached” and “likes” to the Facebook activity report. This provides a more meaningful metric of our outreach to the community through social media.

Fundraising. David presented a four-step strategy to improving the Society’s financial posture (see slides). We joined the Maine Philanthropic Center to improve our understanding of the philanthropic community in the area. When we renewed our membership in Maine Association of Nonprofits, we took

advantage of their discount to join GrantStation—there are grants available to support O&M expenses for worthy causes (like ours!).

General Topics

There being no new business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Farnham
Secretary