

The Falmouth Historical Society Minutes

Falmouth Heritage Museum—April 2, 2019

The board meeting came to order at 6:35 PM. Present were David Farnham, Sue Farnham, Betsy Whitcomb, Rich Meserve, Erin Cadigan, and Fred Howe.

Secretary's Report

The March minutes were reviewed and approved.

Membership. The current membership is 112. Two of these are new corporate sponsors, Bath Savings and the Lions Club. There are 14 lapsed members.

We also have received a substantial donation from the Andrews family.

We have a steady ongoing number of people who check out our website, and 156 people who follow our Facebook account. This is encouraging! We also have an Instagram site—more information to come on that in the future.

Treasurer's Report

The Society has a balance of \$7,754 in its cash accounts and \$22,812 with the Foundation. Our expenses currently are running \$503 above the budget which means our expenses are tracking reasonably close to projections.

A \$235 check was received from Community Programs for the tours that they sponsored jointly with our society.

Old Business

Cleaning. We deaccessioned a few items that were not relevant to Falmouth history. We cleaned out everything in both desks and reorganized the reception area. There are now easy-to-access mailing envelopes, accession forms, sales tickets, and an inbox for Ron. We need to designate a cash box to receive funds from sales along with receipts. Dues, sales, and donations should be marked as such. Next to tackle is the upstairs alcove where the files are located. All the bookcases we received recently from the library are in the barn. They will need to be cleaned up before we can put them to use.

Just a reminder that a spring cleaning day is scheduled for May 5.

Maintenance. The *March 16 workday* was changed into a cleaning day due to the possible presence of asbestos upstairs. Much cleaning, consolidating, and rearranging was accomplished on the second floor.

Asbestos inspection. Fred arranged for an asbestos inspector to come and inspect the second floor. The federal upper tolerance is 1%; Maine's is nearly the same. The closets in two rooms are completely surfaced with textured material that contains 12% asbestos. The ceiling in the "doll" room also has this same surface. The proposal to remove this material quotes a cost of \$3050 for the doll room, and an additional \$3,400 for the 2 closet ceilings, provided they are all done on the same day. At the very least, we now know the scope of the problem, the process to fix it, and the cost. The price is beyond our means now; we can consider applying for grants to get this work done.

Sign installation. Betsy has sent an inquiry to the sign company as to when installation might occur. We are hoping to have it done as soon as the ground can be worked.

Information Systems

Wild Apricot. David has submitted paperwork to switch payment platforms to keep our bill low.

PastPerfect. We have the license for so Ron and Erin can now begin building the catalog.

Carbonite. David will check on prices for individual licenses for our three computers.

Merchandise

Cookbook. Betsy talked with the printing company today. They require signed authorization from the "owner" for reprinting—in this case, Marge Devine who was president at the time of the original printing. When we fill out the order form, we can tell them the circumstances surrounding who "owns" the book (the Falmouth Historical Society). The form online is not compatible with what we want. Betsy will be seeing Marge this month to get signed authorization from the previous "owner" required by the printers.

Wallace Falmouth History book. Staples charged \$375 to print 100 books. Marge's errata/forward page was printed on the inside back cover instead of on a separate page. However, the paper is of good quality and the printing looks nice. Sales will give us a good profit margin.

New Business

Maintenance. We are thankful for Fred's memory concerning the fact that we have a *holding tank*, not a septic tank. Checking the installation records revealed it holds 2,000 gallons. Yearly cleanout cost at the time of installation was \$360. It was installed in 2009. Fred is thinking that perhaps Arkie Rogers cleaned it out last. We need to consider when to clean it next. Thankfully, there is a maintenance book from that time done by Sue Geyer, which has detailed records. We will check this.

We need to follow up with Cunningham Security Systems about the security alarm alarm going off this past week. David has volunteered to do this.

Fundraising. A proposed idea for July or August is to have open the barn and invite antique car clubs to come on a Sunday for an ice cream social. The clubs can offer rides and charge for them. We can sell tickets for ice cream and tickets for rides. We could have music, too if we can get it for free. (Spark- barbershop quartet)

We have recently been informed of an event happening in Falmouth later this spring in which we may be involved. Erin will follow up on this.

Membership. Proposals to grant longtime members Mary Honan and Hannah Russell lifetime memberships was unanimously approved.

Financials. David is working on the paperwork required by the IRS.

Erin suggested we get directors and officer's insurance. David didn't hear back from Allen Insurance Company in Rockland. He will check with other local brokers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Farnham