

Newport Historical Society Minutes

June 14, 2010

Sugar River Bank Community Room

Attendees

Craig Cowing, Anita Cowing, Paul Baird, Arthur Walsh, Laura Kessler, Judi Berry, Bud Berry, Larry Cote, Brenda Curtis, Christina O'Brien, Jackie Cote, Cathryn Baird, Mary Lou McGuire, Allan McGuire, Kevin Sargent, Dakota Sargent, Stan Sweeney, Ray Pammett, Shirley Andrews, William Andrew, Igor Blake, Dottie Collins

1. Call to order

President Baird called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

2. Program: Around the Bend by Ron Garceau

Mr. Garceau presented a very interesting tour of the Sugar River, from its beginning at Lake Sunapee to its outflow into the Connecticut River in West Claremont.

Mr. Garceau, a Claremont native, is a long time collector of postcards and photographs of this area, and has resided in Sunapee for over ten years. His expertise with the subject matter, illustrated by many rare photographs, presented a vivid historic picture of life along the Sugar River. Thank you Mr. Garceau for such an excellent program! Twenty-five people were in attendance.

3. Business Meeting

A. Approval of Consent Agenda.

A motion to accept the Secretary Report and Treasurer Report for the May 10, 2010 meeting and Executive Committee minutes of June 3, 2010 was made by Larry Cote and seconded by Paul Baird. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Committee Reports

Copies of reports from the Website, Cemetery, Newsletter, Fundraising, Museum, Oral History, and Program Committees were presented for perusal.

C. Old Business

A discussion was held regarding whether we should begin each meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Baird presented a short history of the Pledge of Allegiance (first published in September of 1892.) Pros and cons were voiced and upon the motion of Paul Baird, seconded by Ray Pammett, and by unanimous vote, this issue was tabled until the next meeting.

D. New Business

1. Building Committee

President Baird gave a brief report on the status of the Building Committee. Members are meeting on Tuesday, June 15 with a representative of SCORE ("Counselors to America's Small Business") to develop a business plan for the possible acquisition of a new museum site and the long term stewardship such an investment requires. As soon as

any developments of significance occur the news will be shared with the membership.

President Baird offered our deepest appreciation to Igor Blake who recently made a generous contribution to the Building Fund. Thank you Mr. Blake for your substantial support in our quest to relocate the museum to suitable quarters!

Work is in the planning stages to apply for an LCHIP (New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program) grant for the acquisition and restoration of an historic property.

2. Newport Historical Society Museum Opening

Our Museum, located over the Old courthouse Restaurant, showcases Newport artifacts. We opened on June 4, and will be open each Friday and Saturday through September from 10:00 – 2:00. Larry Cote requested help from the membership in getting the word out. Several suggestions were offered to increase publicity for the museum, among which were to have our sign displayed more regularly on the Common (we are dependent on town employees for its schedule of display) and to have a member on the Common during the Farmers Market advertising our hours of operation. Mr. Cote encouraged members to visit the Museum and discover some interesting facts about Newport, such as the story of Dr. Thatcher, a Newport native, who is credited with inventing the modern milk bottle. President Baird asked anyone interested in helping out at the Museum (Fridays and Saturdays between 10:00 – 2:00) to contact Larry Cote at the Museum. 863-1294

Announcements

LAC Garden Tour

President Baird brought to the attention of the membership the upcoming Library Arts Center “Arts in the Garden” Garden Tour. Hold the date of July 10, 2010 (9am-3pm) for this tour of the area’s ten finest gardens. Tickets of \$15 are available at the LAC on the day of the tour. Artists and musicians in the gardens are a unique feature of this garden tour.

Public Forum

No issues were brought before the membership.

Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Lou McGuire