

SUBJECT TO REVIEW, CORRECTION AND APPROVAL

DUNBARTON HISTORICAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE

November 21, 2016, 6:30 Meeting – Town Office

Members Present: Donna Dunn, Les Hammond, Bob Martel (Selectman Liaison), Lee Martel, Bill Zeller
Members out of town/absent: Laraine Allen, Lynn Aramini, Tiffany Dodd, Gail Martel, Ken Swayze, Alison Vallieres,

Minutes: Lee made a motion to accept the minutes of the 10/24/16 meeting. Les seconded, unanimous.

DHAC Funds: 10/31/16 Bank Statements accepted: no expenses, \$20 in book sales, pennies for interest.

Educational Calendar 2016-2017: An updated copy to include the DHAC's 25th Anniversary in March 2017 was distributed. Please keep your calendar where you can refer to it; all committee members need to study the monthly subject matter in advance and start gathering materials and making notes early about how we can create educational tools for the DES. Lee stressed that we need to work well in advance of each month's subject. We also need to remember that once we have materials (photos - sometimes needing permission to reproduce), drawings, ideas to translate, etc. it still takes time to create a document for printing.

(Follow-Up) to October - Archeology Day: Shelley Westenberg was unable to gather students for a second dig on the Town Office lawn; perhaps in the Spring. The skates the kids found last year have been preserved and can be displayed on a prepared board. So far we haven't been able to locate any photos of people skating in Dunbarton to add to it. All committee members are asked to help by checking with anyone they think might have photos.

(Follow-Up) to October – Family History Month: Mary, Dunbarton Librarian, graciously researched genealogy.com. Based on our population, the NH State Library can provide a one-year software subscription beginning in January for \$190. It can't be used remotely - only on the library's computers. Bill made a motion we fund the cost, Les seconded, unanimous. Bill will give Pam the invoice, Donna will email Pam check approval, and Bill will give both the check and a copy of the invoice to Mary. We'll need to promote this resource through the DES/PTO, Library & other email blasts plus include it in the letter we're putting together for Historic Property Owners. A decision to renew next year will be based on usage.

The Library is phasing out Nancy Lang's website since there is no longer anyone to do the coding. Mary has replaced it with a library "template" website the staff can edit. Historical information is under a "Genealogy Resources" section. Committee members should familiarize themselves with what has already been listed for books, family histories and links (i.e. Dunbarton Town Reports). We will discuss further recommendations for the library's consideration next month. Please come prepared.

November - Native American Heritage Month: There were not enough visuals to put together a Teacher Tidbit sheet this year. Lee & Bob had recently provided Abenaki language translations, but visuals are still needed. All committee members should collect information, drawings, and more for next year.

Bill reported the 3rd grade had a Native American speaker last year that is unavailable this year. Bill asked if Bob or Lee would be available? They will let Bill know. This year, the teacher and students have already been to the Dunbarton Library to gather information. In this vein, we should always be thinking about what materials we can offer (library's permission and space allowing) to the new "History Room."

December - Historic Gingerbread Houses: Bill reported 3rd grade teacher Molly Morissette is in charge this year and appreciated our \$50 donation to help with materials. Bill will lead the walk with the children and teachers on the 2nd or 5th of December. He'll then speak to the classes. He's taken his own photos of houses, but will supplement them with the WSFHT books the DHAC donated a few years ago. It was suggested we ask

each child to sign their name and the date directly on the page in the book of the structure they are replicating. We'll repeat the process each year. Bill will get the books back to Donna to store for next year.

Letter to Historical Property Owners: Letter should be short to keep the reader's attention, but include basics such as: books available for purchase, how they can access all the other photos, records, newspapers, etc. available to them, mention the new "History Room" at the library and more. Please bring ideas about content and format to the *next meeting*. Email suggestions to Donna if you can't attend.

April - National Letter Writing Month - Bill advised that the 4th graders have pen pals in a Ketchikan AK school and write about every six weeks with all letters going in one envelope. They receive the same in return. The 3rd grade is somewhat learning to read cursive; they type on a computer but the results print out in a realistic cursive. They also learn to sign their names in cursive.

House Signs: At Lee's suggestion, the committee might be interested in a historic sign for the "Hadley-Kimball" former mill site. Lee has spoken with the Conservation Commission and will await their response.

An old DHAC letter was located that denied a sign to a resident whose home had been substantially remodeled. The committee suggested this issue be revisited. Please think about the pros and cons from all angles (historic, aesthetic, building codes, etc.) and come prepared to discuss this next month.

Potential Childrens Coloring/Book: Samples were passed out. Discussed getting a group of "young parents with skills" together to assist. Bill will check with the Art Teacher for recommendations. After noticing that Gorham Maine's downloadable coloring book was published by their High School, it was suggested there might be Dunbarton high schoolers who could help. Donna will check with Shelley.

Next Meeting: Next Meeting is Monday, December 19, (3rd Monday of the Month instead of the 4th Monday due to Holidays) 6:30 at the Town Offices.

Les made a motion to adjourn at 7:25, seconded by Bill, Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Dunn,
Chair & Secretary