

DUNBARTON HISTORICAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE

July 27, 2015, 6:30 Meeting – Town Offices

Members Present: Laraine Allen, Donna Dunn, Les Hammond, Alison Vallieres
(Members Out of Town/absent: Lynn Aramini, Tiffany Dodd, Gail & Leo Martel, Ken Swayze, Bill Zeller)

Minutes: Laraine made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting on 5/18/15; Les seconded. (There was no meeting in June).

DHAC Funds: Bank statements provided and reviewed. Noyes funds: no changes. General Funds: \$50 in book sales since last review.

DES K-6 Local History Curriculum:

1) **The DES Artist in Residence Program:** A play in honor of the town's 250th Anniversary entitled "Way Back When" was twice presented to the General Public by the 4th and 5th graders based on historical presentations made by DHAC members Bill Zeller, Gail Martel and Donna Dunn. Armed with a trailer of antiques and artifacts, they spent a class period with each grade and detailed early domestic duties such as washing clothes with water drawn from a well, homemade soap and washboards, cooking, making butter, haying, farm chores, frugal use of shoes and going barefoot, walking to Dunbarton's eleven different schools. Leisure activities included swimming in ice ponds, sledding down the main roads, old snowshoes, wooden skis, summer boarders at farms. A favorite was the first phone system in Dunbarton with party lines and a 13 year-old switchboard operator, town resident Arline Little. The entire project was coordinated by Kindergarten Teacher Kim Belanger and was a great success. Kim will provide the DHAC with a copy of the script for our archives.

2) **Teachers:** The Spring gathering requested by the DES Teachers at the Molly Stark House was cancelled at their request due to busy workloads. They may request a reschedule in the Fall.

3) **October:** Wayne Stadelmen (schedule permitting) has agreed to bring his vintage fire truck to Fire Prevention Week at the DES to supplement our inclusion of fire prevention tools of "way back when"... Donna will check with Chief Jon Wiggin to coordinate.

DHS Update from Alison:

School House Roof: Main building complete; still working on ell. Structural damage repaired – 3 rafters. Due to tools and construction materials on site, the DHS was not able to open the museum this past weekend.

Jameson Cape: Proceeding with volunteer assistance.

250th Committee Update from Alison:

Committee is down to four people; could use some help. 250th quilt is done and a press release was sent out.

Bud's Historical Reference Library: If cost to organize and format is less than \$5,000 there is no need to use the formal RFP process; phone quotes will suffice. May obtain the opinion of several librarians and/or members of the Surveyor's Association on how to organize this material.

Miscellaneous:

While doing educational research, Donna located a copy of "Gravestone Inscriptions from All Cemeteries Within the Township of Dunbarton, NH 1758-1933 by Priscilla Hammond" at the NH Historical Society. Most importantly, this document has an index at the back which makes it easy to look up a name and find where someone is buried – a common question from descendants contacting town officials. Copies are now with the Town Clerk, Cemetery Trustees and will soon be with the DHS.

Donna found a \$20 Wal Mart/Sam's Club Gift Certificate from 1998 given to the DHAC from Auger Realty. If we have no need of purchases for the committee, it was suggested we provide this certificate to the DES Roots program to purchase "medicinal plants" such as comfrey, lambs ear, etc in their garden and provide information regarding poultices, early use of medicinal plants... Or to a teacher for classroom supplies such as the annual historical gingerbread house project.

Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48; Laraine seconded.

Next Meeting Monday, August 24, 6:30, Town Offices

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Dunn, Chair & Secretary