

DUNBARTON HISTORICAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE

January 26, 2015 Meeting - Town Offices

Members Present: Laraine Allen, Donna Dunn, Ken Swayze, Alison Vallieres

Others Present: Lee Martel

The Board of Selectmen recently accepted, with regrets, the resignations of Rebecca Rolke, Chair/Secretary and Bill Rolke, former Treasurer. Both served this committee in many capacities since 2002 - most notably in the publication of "Where Settler's Feet Have Trod" and Alice Hadley's voluminous town genealogy. We deeply feel their loss but respect their desire to move onto other endeavors and thank them for their leadership, love of town history and good wishes for our future. They are the perfect example of folk who didn't grow up Dunbarton, but moved here and adopted this town as their own. We can only hope for more 'immigrants' like Bill & Rebecca.

This Committee was formed by Warrant Article in 1992. Donna provided all Town Reports since that date and it was determined Ken Swayze was senior member. He headed a discussion regarding succession of officers/ duties. Issue: Keep the current set up or consider a Chair/Secretary and Vice Chair? Decision: Table the discussion, keep the current set up and revisit the issue after elections & potential appointment of new members.

Laraine Allen made a motion that Donna Dunn assume the Chair/Secretary seat previously occupied by Rebecca Rolke; Ken Swayze seconded. Unanimous vote.

Ken Swayze made a motion that Laraine Allen assume the Treasurer position previously held by Bill Rolke; Alison Vallieres seconded. Unanimous vote. Duties: Monthly report of deposits, expenditures and balances. (The Town Treasurer keeps the checkbook, issues checks, makes deposits, balances accounts and files annual reports.)

Ken Swayze suggested we contact Rebecca & Bill and collect any pertinent committee files, minutes, etc., and turn them over to the town for archiving. Donna will contact Rebecca.

Web site: Donna will provide updated information.

Our membership composition needs to reflect current priorities. For example, we are not currently publishing any educational materials and the sign project is well underway. The DES history curriculum and providing it with new materials is current priority. We're looking for volunteer names to submit to the Selectmen. These volunteer(s) would have access to vintage documents, newspapers, photographs and other cool stuff to help provide our liaison, Bill Zeller, with interesting material for the students. Participation at school would also be welcome.

The K-6 curriculum was emailed to members 1/14/15. Input is needed at the 'K' level. Providing vintage toys was discussed. The Historical Museum Laraine volunteers at in New Jersey have experience; she'll make inquiries.

Noyes Historical Reference Library: This falls into the aforementioned committee composition issue; we need help to organize these copies of historical document into useable educational/research materials.

Sign Project Update: The 2015 price is \$105 (up from \$95 due to higher material costs). Five signs are ready (Londonderry/Hudson) but we no longer have our volunteer courier. Ken asked about having them shipped to homeowners; cost is prohibitive. We need a new volunteer. Suggestions were made. Follow up is necessary.

Town Pound: The DHAC is still unable to install the new sign due to site conditions. Alison Vallieres said the Pound is owned by the Town and occupies 50' x 50'. The Committee previously met on site: one of the walls is collapsing and large roots from abutters' bushes and trees are damaging/jeopardizing structural integrity. Ken Swayze, with the help of volunteer mason Lee Martel, would be willing to help but we need clarification from the Selectmen as to how the town wishes to repair this property. Laraine Allen pointed out this is the Town's 250th anniversary so this should be the year to take action. Nothing can be done this winter; it will be addressed after elections and final/updated committee roster in March.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2015

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Dunn, Chair/Secretary