Minutes: Leo made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting on November 23, Gail seconded. Approved.

DHAC Funds: Both Citizens Bank Statements dated 11/30/15 were reviewed. There was a deposit of $15 to the Committee general account, an unusual amount since our books sell for $10. Donna has sent an email to the Town Treasurer to find out what the deposit consists of.

DES K-6 Local History Curriculum Updates:

December: Third grade will begin making their historical gingerbread houses on Friday. If Donna is unable to take a photograph of the children actually constructing the houses on Friday, Gail will attempt to get a shot of the finished houses next week while they are on display until Wednesday. Donna will also ask Kim Belanger or Bill Zeller to take a photo of the kids in action. It was noted that the number of houses being constructed exceeds the number of historical homes in the Town Center so some children are using structures outside the Town Center. One child is constructing the Town Pound. Next year, the Committee will make tiny white “historic house signs” out of white coroplast and provide them to the children.

Scrapbook Art History Project: The cost of materials was actually $52.13, a few dollars over the budget of $50. It was determined it would be best to have the Fire Department in the loop rather than try to surprise them. The Chief has a box of photos and news articles that could be included at the same time we’re working with the children on the other news clippings. This would make the scrapbook truly usable as a resource for the Fire Department. We’ll schedule this for much later in the year…could even work with the summer school kids on this.

Historical House Signs:

It was decided to hold off on round #2 of letters to homeowners who don’t yet have a sign. The large increase in many people’s taxes might make them unreceptive to something ‘town related’, especially since the cost has increased from $95 to $105. This will be addressed after next June.

Bud Noyes’s Reference Library:

Discussion regarding how to place this information before the public: Since there are no originals in these papers, only copies, it might be possible to place them in a (locking?) cabinet at the library at some point. The Trustees are agreeable, and it could save Linda Landry time. Pros and Cons were tossed around. Ken didn’t like the idea. All options should be discussed with the seven people Bud put in charge: Bill, Rebecca, Les, Donna, Linda Landry, Nancy Frost and Marion Crosby. Some of these people may no longer be able or interested and that will need to be addressed before much longer. Ken suggested a fireproof cabinet but it might be cost prohibitive at (perhaps) over $2,000. And the papers would need to be thinned before considered. The papers and binders are still in tubs on the high shelves in the Tax Collectors closet. It was decided all members should find time to look through these tubs on their own or in groups after the holidays to get a better handle on what is inside. Then we can, once again, schedule work time.

Leo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35; Gail seconded.

Next meeting Monday, January 25, 6:30 Town Offices

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Dunn, Chair & Secretary