

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 27, 2012
The Homestead**

PLEASE BRING A COPY OF THESE MINUTES TO OUR NEXT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2012.

President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report -- Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the Secretary's Report be approved; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – We did very well at the Peach Festival. Approximately 150 people attended. We took in \$552 for food, \$13.40 in donations and \$327 in sales for a total of \$1,042.40. **Expenses** are still to be determined, but our profits will be over \$800. Comparing these figures with those from previous Peach Festivals, this is one of our most successful events. Marilyn Serus moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop -- An architectural historian has recommended two appropriate colors for the front door: Benjamin Moore's Essex Green and Chrome Green. After a discussion, Dorothy moved that we paint the front door Chrome Green; second by Nancy Farnum. Eight were in favor of the motion; there were two abstentions. The motion passed.

Membership Report – Marilyn Serus – We received one family and one senior membership this month. Dorothy DeBisschop noted that she had sent invitations to the Peach Festival to names on a list compiled from the Open House guest book. Several attended.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Long Time Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar and/or Marcia Wrogg – Marilyn Serus will speak to Mary Kennedy about arranging for an interview; Dorothy DeBisschop will be responsible for the videotaping.

Open Museum Days Docent Schedule – Nancy Farnum (Sign Up Sheet) – Volunteers were requested to sign up for future museum open hours. Our new exhibit will be the photographs of the Village of Riverside and of the Stevenson Dam construction and renovation. Volunteers were requested to help set up the display boards.

Open Museum Days Sign Concern – Nancy Farnum – The legs of the signs are very sharp. Nancy Farnum will purchase rubber tips for them, but volunteers putting them out were cautioned to be careful.

Peach Festival Report – Dorothy DeBisschop – See Treasurer's Report, above.

New Folding Chairs – Cindy Joy – We are working to acquire donations for 20 chairs. Nancy Farnum expressed a concern that we needed a way to store the chairs when open space was needed. Marcia Wrogg suggested a rack in the hallway by the bathroom. Dorothy DeBisschop felt they could be stored in the closet in the same area. The plastic stacking chairs could be kept in the cellar.

Any Other Old Business – Ed Rowland recommended we have a cellar clean-up work party in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Accountant Search – Cindy Joy – Dorothy DeBisschop stated that her daughter, Faith Williams, is working on this.

Museum “Store” Now located in Desk – Marilyn Stebar – No report.

Made in Connecticut Day – Sunday, October 21, 2012 – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Nancy Farnum (Sign Up Sheet) – We will take part in Made in Connecticut Day. We have done well there in the past. A sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers to sit at our booth. October 21 is also an Open Museum Day. The Executive Board will discuss how we will handle this problem.

Any Other New Business – Cindy Joy brought up our booth at the polls on Election Day. We need to make sure we have enough supplies to sell. We want to be positioned near the side door where people will pass close to us as they leave after voting. Nancy Farnum explained that voter entrance and exit depends on whether school is in session or not. She will check with the Registrar to determine voter routing. Marcia Wrogg volunteered to bring a heater.

ADJOURNMENT -- Dorothy DeBisschop moved that we adjourn; second by Cindy Joy. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Following refreshments, Nancy Farnum introduced newly donated portraits of Mary Hudson and David Rosseter Lum painted in 1841 by an anonymous artist. The portraits were given by Faith Warner in loving memory of her husband, Lucian Warner. The Lums ran the Oxford House from 1865 – 1873.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum
Acting Secretary