

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 27, 2014
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes to our next meeting on Monday, February 24, 2014.

A potluck supper preceded the regular general meeting.

President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Cindy Joy moved that the secretary's report for the previous meeting be approved; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – Marilyn Serus moved that the treasurer's reports for November and December, 2013 be approved; second by Barbara Robinson. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop. *In Dorothy DeBisschop's absence, Louise Burr presented the Homestead Report.*

- a. **Windows Replacement Plan** – Ed Rowland has picked up the upstairs replacement windows from Oxford Paint and Hardware.
- b. **Twitchell Room Floor Patching** – Dorothy and Bob DeBisschop and Ed Rowland have the Twitchell Room floor repair in progress. They are still looking for a 3" x 33" antique board.
- c. **Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom** – The loom committee is fabricating new linen heddles.
- d. **Driveway Paving Fundraising and Grant Application** – We did not receive the grant we applied for to fund driveway paving. We will apply to other sources.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – Marilyn Serus, outgoing Membership Chairperson, transferred the paperwork to new Membership Chairperson, Barbara Robinson. Cindy Joy has volunteered to help Barbara with Excel.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Longtime Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar, Jane Hulbert, Marcia Wrogg – No videotaped interviews were done over the holidays. Marilyn Stebar will check with Marcia Wrogg to reschedule Mary Kennedy, Lea Seabury, and Harold Smith. We are not certain about interviewing Carol Zwick as she is in Shady Knoll, and the nursing home keeps all videotaped interviews as their property.

March 8, 2014 Civil War Program: "Connecticut Yankees at Antietam" by Author John Banks – Jack Konicki – Jack has sent publicity materials to Nancy Farnum and Dorothy DeBisschop.

Any Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Crane Donation – Rob Buck donated a fireplace crane from his grandmother's home in Washington, CT that fits the fireplace in the main meeting room. Nancy Farnum will take it to the blacksmith in North Woodbury so that the hardware to attach it to the fireplace interior can be made.

New Recycling Center Sign – Marilyn Stebar -- In response to many questions about where the money from the Historical Society can and bottle recycling project goes, Ron and Marilyn Stebar made a new sign on legs that will be attached to the fence behind the barrels at the recycling center. Ron will ask Wayne Watt for permission to install it.

"Early Houses of Oxford" Book Update – Marilyn Stebar – Dorothy DeBisschop spoke with Marilyn Stebar about researching owner updates and coordinating new colored digital photos for the 1976 "Early Houses of Oxford". Marilyn would also like to send a letter requesting current or additional information to current owners. The question has arisen as to whether or not we should take orders, make and paint new signs that date the older homes. The group agreed how upsetting it is how many old houses have been torn down since the Bi-Centennial. It was proposed that they be included in the book with a statement that they were demolished. The issue of including other houses that have become 100 years old or older since the original "Early Houses" was written was also discussed.

Any Other New Business – There was no other new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Stebar moved that we adjourn; second by Nancy Farnum. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Entertainment – Marilyn Serus presented quaint sayings and customs from Eric Sloane's "Do's and Don'ts of Olden Days."