

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 16, 2014
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes to our next meeting on July 28. Thank you.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the minutes of the May 19, 2014 meeting be approved; second by Cindy Joy. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved; second by Jane Hulbert. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

- a. **Windows Replacement Plan** – The first shipment of new windows is in. Ed Rowland has ordered museum quality windows for the main meeting room. All new windows need to be painted around the inside and outside frames. When the main meeting room windows are in, Dorothy will submit a final report to the Matthies Foundation. The two attic windows will be taken out, puttied, repainted and replaced.
- b. **Twitchell Room Floor Patching** – The hole in the Twitchell Room floor is now covered with old boards. They are humped up, and need to be removed and laid on damp grass to flatten.
- c. **Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom** – The loom is almost ready to warp. A metal reed has been ordered but not received.
- d. **Driveway Paving Fundraising** – If we make about the same amount from the Flea Market as we have in the past, we will have enough funds to pave the existing driveway. Depending on the estimates we receive from pavers, we may be able to extend it to increase the number of parking spaces.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – There was no membership report.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Longtime Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar, Jane Hulbert, Marcia Wrogg, Dorothy DeBisschop – Dorothy DeBisschop reported that she and Marilyn Stebar videotaped Wesley Smith. They want to schedule Fred and Myrtle Rowland and Eleanor Sturges and Louise Burr.

"Early Houses of Oxford" Book Update – Marilyn Stebar – There was no report.

Vintage Vehicle Show: Sunday, June 21 at 1 p.m. – Nancy Farnum – Nancy Farnum thanked the group for their support.

"Flea Market" Saturday, June 21. (Rain Date: June 22) – Marcia Wrogg and Jane Hulbert – The signs advertising the event are ready to be put up. One has already been put up at the Grange. Stakes will be put in on Friday at 1. Eleven spaces have been rented. The tent will be put up Thursday at 4 p.m. when the pricing crew can help. Ed Rowland will mow the lawn beforehand.

Permanent Museum Sign – John Konicki – The zoning application was submitted on June 12. John has tried to locate the zoning officer three times and to get the chairman of the Zoning

Board to approve our application, both without success. We will have to go in front of the entire board on July 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. There is a problem with the height of our sign and we will have to ask for a variance. There are no charges since we are a non-profit.

Civil War Armistice Anniversary Celebration – John Konicki –The planning for the Civil War Armistice Anniversary Celebration is going well. John Konicki and Marilyn Stebar met with Great Oak Principal Brian Murphy and Social Studies teacher Susan Gibbons, who received the project enthusiastically.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Peach Festival – Reconsider Theme – Dorothy DeBisschop – We had originally planned the theme to be Oxford's Native Americans. The speaker we would like to host charges \$200 for her appearances. We will postpone this event until November and apply for a grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation to cover the costs. The Peach Festival will focus on the Albert Kimberley Civil War letters. Lists of Oxford men who have given service in various wars will be on display. We will invite people who have photos of family members in uniform, no matter where they were living at the time, to submit them for display.

New Electric Fence Warning Signs – Nancy Farnum – Ron Stebar had signs made warning people to avoid the electric fence around the horse paddock and pasture.

Volunteer for Refreshments for Our July 28 Meeting – Nancy Farnum volunteered to bring refreshments to our next meeting.

Docents Needed (Sign-Up Sheet) – Nancy Farnum **(Museum Closed July 6)**

Next Museum Display: Sewing – Artifacts Needed – Nancy Farnum – Nancy Farnum asked members to look for family sewing artifacts like mending baskets or antique thimbles. All items will be treated with care and returned.

Any Other New Business – Cindy Joy announced that State Archeologists will appear at the Seymour Community Center to speak on disinterring the body of Albert Afraid of Hawk and returning his remains to Native American holy ground. This event will take place on June 24 at 7 p.m. and is sponsored by the Seymour Historical Society.

ADJOURNMENT

Jane Hulbert moved that the meeting be adjourned; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Following refreshments kindly provided by Jane Hulbert, Dorothy DeBisschop and Nancy Farnum led a tour of the Homestead to help members feel more comfortable when they volunteer as docents.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary