

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 22, 2014
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes to our next meeting on Monday, October 27, 2014.

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

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the Secretary's Report be approved as Read; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

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

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

a. Windows Replacement Plan – The large window in the Main Meeting Room and one attic window have been installed. The second attic window has been repaired, and will be installed after painting. That will complete our windows replacement plan. Thank you to everyone who worked on this project.

b. Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom – The loom is awaiting warping.

c. Driveway Paving – We are waiting for the contractor to begin work.

d. Ramp Repair – Jack Konicki – Jack has completed painting and repairing the ramp rail and handrail. He will stain the floor to complete the project.

e. Scraping and Repainting the Front of the House – Dorothy DeBisschop has scraped peeling paint from the bottom 3 rows of shingles at the front of the house. She will prime them with oil base paint. One source of our problem may be the gutters which need cleaning. This will be done before winter. We will look at the shingles in the spring and assess their condition to determine if further work is needed.

f. Exit Sign – The exit sign in the Main Meeting Room had been bumped and broken. Bob and Dottie DeBisschop installed a bar to hold it in place.

g. Attic Access – A second entry via a pull-down staircase to the attic through the ceiling in the upstairs front hallway is being studied.

h. Painting the Back Door – The back door into the Main Meeting Room will be painted to match the front door.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – No Report.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape interviews of Long Time Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar, Dorothy DeBisschop – No report.

"Early Houses of Oxford" Book Update – Marilyn Stebar – No report.

Permanent Museum Sign – John Konicki – No report.

Civil War Armistice Anniversary Celebration – Jack Konicki -- No report. Louise Burr explained that a letter will be sent to local choir directors to hold an organizational meeting next month. Rehearsals will begin after Christmas.

Docents Needed (Sign up Sheet) – Nancy Farnum – Members were requested to sign up to volunteer as docents during open museum hours.

Tee Shirt and Sweatshirt Committee – Volunteers Needed – Marilyn Stebar contacted Sue Gibbons, who will have a logo for our new tee shirts and sweatshirts ready for our next meeting.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly Debt Payment Increase – Dorothy DeBisschop – The Executive Board voted to increase our monthly debt payment to \$530 to pay off what we owe a year earlier. If needed, we can pay less and we can still borrow if necessary from our line of credit.

Book Talk: “Connecticut’s Indigenous peoples” by Lucianne Lavin, on Sunday, November 9 from 2:30 (?) - 4:30 (?) p.m. at St. Peter’s Church Hall – Dorothy DeBisschop – Ms. Lavin has a conflict the day of her talk, and Dorothy is working to establish a definite time.

Holiday Bazaar: First and Third Sundays in December from 2-4 p.m. – Marilyn Serus and Barbara Robinson will chair this event. The Garden Club will decorate the Homestead for the holidays as usual and Louise Burr will create 2 small miniature holiday villages.

Washband Tavern Open House Wednesday, October 22, from 2-7 p.m. to Celebrate the Building’s 300th Anniversary – Dorothy DeBisschop – Our group will supply docents, costumes and artifacts for this event.

Any Other New Business – Dorothy DeBisschop – In celebration of their 250th Anniversary, St. Peter’s Church will hold an English Tea and a talk about their stained glass windows on Saturday, October 4.

ADJOURNMENT

Dorothy DeBisschop moved that we adjourn; second by Jane Hulbert. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Following refreshments, the group shared memories of autumn activities in Oxford including Halloween celebrations and cider making.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary