

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2015 7 p.m.
The Homestead**

Our next General Meeting will be held Sunday, February 7, 2016, following a presentation by Charlie Rippel on Abraham Lincoln at 2 p.m. at the Homestead. Snow date for this event is February 21. All members are also invited to attend Oxford Historical Society Executive Board meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Homestead.

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

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting be approved; second by Cindy Joy. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy -- Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's Report for the month ending October 31, 2015 be approved; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

- a. **Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom** – Jan Galloway and Christine Wilkinson are meeting on Thursdays through December. The loom is warped through the reed and heddle. The next step is to wind the warp thread around the wheels and to get the right tension.
- b. **Kitchenette Project** – Nancy Farnum e-mailed Ed Rowland re: an estimate from the electrician, but did not receive a reply.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – Cindy Joy said that we had received membership renewals from Ed and Janice Hardy, the Gibbons Family and Connie Wiebe.

Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers for 2016 – Cindy Joy and Marilyn Serus – The proposed slate of Oxford Historical Society Officers for 2016 is as follows: President: Louise Burr; 1st Vice President: Marilyn Serus; 2nd Vice President: Dorothy DeBisschop, Chairman of Development and Fundraising; Treasurer: Cindy Joy; Assistant Treasurer: Vacant; Recording Secretary: Nancy Farnum; Historian: Nancy Farnum; Corresponding Secretary and membership Chair: Barbara Robinson; Members at Large: Richard Crane and Marilyn Stebar. Louise Burr asked for any additional nominations. Hearing none, Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the Secretary cast 1 ballot for the proposed slate of officers; second by Marilyn Stebar. All in favor.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Longtime Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar and Dorothy DeBisschop – No report.

"Early Houses of Oxford: Update – Marilyn Stebar – The committee has met twice. Brandon Whitburn, Oxford High School Senior, has written publicity as part of his Capstone project. Richard and Christine Crane are sending personal letters to those who did not respond to the first mailing. The committee meets again on December 3.

Permanent Museum Sign – Jack Konicki – Jack Konicki met with Ron Stebar to review plans for the museum sign and to devise a plan to complete it. Jack asked the group to rescind its previous motion to install a plastic post and instead to reconsider a pressure-treated pine post. Plans for the spindles and the ironwork are in progress. Dorothy DeBisschop moved that we authorize Ron and Jack to pick the materials for the sign post; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

Docents Needed for Upcoming Open Museum Days – Nancy Farnum – A docent is needed for January 17.

Reprinting Litchfield's "History of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut" – Dorothy DeBisschop – Dorothy DeBisschop has 2 chapters ready for proofreading. She will provide PDF and Word files. When 4 chapters are complete, she will advertise for proofreaders.

Rollin Car Donation Update – Louise Burr – Several people with backgrounds in antique car restoration looked at the car and felt it was too big a project to take on. Our inability to insure either the car or the workers was also an issue. The car will be returned to its owner, probably after Christmas.

Homestead Christmas Bazaar and Open House – Barbara Robinson and Marilyn Serus – Nancy Farnum passed out posters to be put up in town. Dorothy DeBisschop sent out a request for donations via e-mail. The Garden Club will decorate on Saturday. Rob Buck is loaning us his antique tree ornament collection, and we would welcome the loan of nativity sets to place in the display cases.

Election Day Sales Booth – Louise Burr said that we took in \$287. She thanked all who baked and sold.

Donation to the Friends of the Library in Oxford Holiday Fundraiser Raffle – Marilyn Serus – The Friends of the Library in Oxford have expressed their appreciation for the basket we donated.

Any Other Old Business – There was no other old business

NEW BUSINESS

Vote on Bylaws Revision: Article VII, Section B, Article 3 shall read: “ Second Vice President – shall direct fundraising and development.” Marilyn Stebar so moved; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

Explanation of the Maintenance Committee – Our Maintenance Committee includes Fred Rowland, Ed Rowland, and Bob DeBisschop. Rob Robinson has said he will help. There is no official chairman. A book in which members can write down maintenance concerns has been placed on the top left hand book shelf in the Main Meeting Room. The Executive Board will check the book at their monthly meetings, notify the committee of any problems, and let them work out how to handle them. Louise Burr will set up a meeting of the Maintenance Committee to decide how they will proceed and who will be contacted in case of a problem or need.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Dorothy DeBisschop moved that we adjourn; Second by Cindy Joy. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Following our meeting, members shared stories of Thanksgiving memories and enjoyed refreshments prepared by Nancy Farnum.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Farnum
Recording Secretary