

**Oxford Historical Society
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 19, 2016
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes with you to our next meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

Executive Board Members Present: Louise Burr, Richard Crane, Dorothy DeBisschop, Nancy Farnum, Cindy Joy, Barbara Robinson, Marilyn Stebar. **Absent:** Marilyn Serus.

General Membership Present: Bob DeBisschop, Eleanor Sturges, Marcia Wrogg.

CALL TO ORDER: President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

REPORTS

Secretary's Report -- The question of displaying Marcia Wrogg's Lincoln collection was clarified. Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the Executive Board Meeting Minutes for November 17 be approved as corrected; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Joy – Cindy reported that we made \$319 on our holiday bazaar. Our treasury balance as of 1/19/16 is \$11,031.53. Marilyn Stebar moved that the treasurer's reports for November and December be approved; second by Richard Crane. All in favor.

Fundraising and Development Report – Dorothy DeBisschop – Dorothy has a call in to the chairman of the Valley Community Foundation to plan for a meeting to compare the histories of the Valley Community Foundation and the Connecticut Community Foundation in terms of earnings, how much we would need for a startup investment and interest. In February, the board will make a decision as to where we will invest. Give Local and Give Greater are in April. Nancy Farnum moved that we participate in these fundraising events; second by Cindy Joy. All in favor. In February, Dorothy will present a program on the History of Gardening to the Oxford Garden Club. She will bring membership forms in hopes that some of the Garden Club might also join our group.

Membership Report – Barbara Robinson – We discussed the membership form for 2016 and made minor changes.

Museum Open Hours Report – Our Christmas Open Houses were a great success. We will get out publicity on our new "Oxford Artists Past and Present: exhibit in hopes of attracting visitors.

Any Other Reports – There were no other reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Longtime Residents Videotapes – Marilyn Stebar, Marilyn Serus, Dorothy DeBisschop – No report. Marilyn Stebar and Dorothy DeBisschop will try to arrange an interview for next week.

Permanent Museum Sign – Marilyn Stebar – Ron Stebar and Jack Konicki are working on the post, frame, metalwork and arm.

"Early Houses of Oxford Revision" – Marilyn Stebar – The project is coming along well. We meet every 2 weeks. Chris Crane's reminder notes of the January 15 deadline plus the publicity generated a good response. Marilyn has been at the Town Hall searching records for house details.

Kitchenette Possibilities – Nancy Farnum – Essie and Pat Lydon have offered us a bar sink which probably isn't suitable for our kitchenette but would be a possibility for a set tub in the basement for dirty jobs. Nancy will contact Ed Rowland again about an electrician's estimate for the kitchenette.

Docents Needed for Upcoming Open Days – Nancy Farnum – A sign-up sheet was circulated.

Reprinting Litchfield's "History of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut" – Dorothy DeBisschop – Five chapters are ready for editing. Richard Crane and Cindy Joy volunteered.

Rollin Car Donation – Louise Burr – The car has not been moved yet as its storage area in New Hampshire is snow covered.

Old Time Family Reunion: Sunday, February 7 – This date had been suggested previously before plans were made for the Lincoln program. We postponed the event until a later date.

Sunday, February 7, 2 p.m.: Lincoln Program with Charlie Rippel; Display of Marcia Wrogg's Lincoln Collection – Barbara Robinson – Barbara confirmed the date with Charlie Rippel. Sign-up sheets were passed for volunteers to help with the event.

Trifold Status – Dorothy DeBisschop – We edited and revised the trifold.

Any Other Old Business – The weavers have begun working on the loom! Dorothy DeBisschop proposed a Sheep to Shawl Day for the third Sunday in April, with Ron West doing a sheep shearing demonstration. The weavers recommended we offer natural dye production as well. Dorothy will start lining up spinners and weavers. Dorothy DeBisschop moved that the Board give her permission to explore dates and personnel for the event; second by Marilyn Stebar. All in favor.

The minutes of the General Meeting on November 23, 2015 were approved as read.

NEW BUSINESS

Laura Dion Thanks You for Her Christmas Gift Certificate – Cindy Joy read a thank you note from gardener Laura Dion for her Christmas gift certificate to Dress Barn.

"Windows of the Word of God": Book Talk, Wednesday, January 27, 7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room – Friends of the Library in Oxford are providing refreshments. Dorothy encouraged our members to attend.

Any Other New Business – Cindy Joy handed out flyers from The Arts and Culture Collaborative for the Waterbury Region. Dorothy DeBisschop attended a meeting of the Naugatuck Valley Historical Society Consortium. They will be sponsoring a meeting re: a new free program being offered to Historical Societies for cataloging acquisitions. The date will be announced. Louise Burr received the Brown Trout catalog of calendars for 2017. Nancy Farnum moved that we authorize Louise to run this very successful fundraiser again; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – Marcia Wrogg suggested that we explain what we are discussing for the benefit of the general membership.

ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Stebar moved that we adjourn; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Farnum,

Recording Secretary