

ISLE AU HAUT HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS MEETING
Saturday, September 11, 2010
Revere Memorial Hall

President Harold Van Doren called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Members present were Harold Van Doren, Pat Cole, Billy Barter, Margaret Snell, Dick Marks, Libby and Fred Eustis, Marion Breeze-Williams, Brenda Clark, Marie Hamly, Janet Barter and husband Paul London, and Belvia MacDonald. Harold gave a brief summary of the feelings expressed by several members of the society regarding the proposed NPS historical survey of Isle au Haut. He noted that most of the reservations stemmed from some of the older members' experiences in the past with park policies and lack of local interaction. More recent members did not experience this period during the 1960's so were much more positive. Pat Cole reported a conversation with Rob Snyder of The Island Institute, who felt the project as presently structured was rather sketchy and could not do the subject justice. Harold reported speaking with the interviewer, Dr. Deur, who felt we should be given the chance to critique the study before it is released. Harold assured Dr. Deur our collections would be available to his research. We requested a copy of the release form that would be used by participants.

Libby Eustis felt we should be supportive and cooperative unless we felt things were getting out of hand, and that we would have much more control over the results by being involved. Fred Eustis commented that this whole project is becoming much larger to us than to the NPS.

In summing up the discussion, it was the sense of the meeting that we will support the NPS study and hope that our input will be listened to. We want to see the release form and would like to know beginning and end dates. We would like it understood that by agreeing to support the study we will have the opportunity to review the finished results.

Pat Cole asked us to start thinking about any topics and speakers for meetings and events next summer. Several subjects were suggested, such as the history of Bowditch's presence and influence on the island, a history of island houses and harbors, and hopefully an outside speaker. She also reported that any building acquisition was on hold until we find a suitable site.

Harold then introduced Janet Barter who gave the group an explanation of what she hoped to achieve with the archive scanning project to create a virtual website. The fire on Swan's Island last summer brought into focus the real need to have a digital record of our material so the contents are safeguarded, and more easily accessed by researchers.

Brenda Clark reported on her contact with a regional representative of the USDA and explained that we do not fit their criteria for a grant application. She also is contacting someone from the Maine State Preservation society. Dick Marks said he would contact Bob Lingley to see if Bob would be interested in advising us on a pro bono basis about acquiring non-profit status.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was **VOTED: To accept the following slate of officers for 2010-2011:**

President – Harold Van Doren

Vice President – Pat Cole

Secretary – Marie Hamly

Treasurer – Brenda Clark

Harold then welcomed new members Janet Barter, Marion Breeze-Williams and Ingrid Luke, who was absent due to a family death.

There being no further business, either old or new, it was **VOTED: To adjourn.** Adjourned accordingly at 11:25 p.m.

Marie Hamly, Secretary