

Isle au Haut Historical Society Board Meeting
July 19, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Attending: Tom Guglielmo, Brenda Clark, Kris Carlson-Lewis, Bob Smith, Sue Chamberlain, Wendall Chamberlain, Marion Breeze-Williams, Ann Davidson, Marie Hamly.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Acting President Tom Guglielmo.

The Treasurer, Brenda Clark presented a report with a current balance of \$8,110.07 (copy for files). No request for funding was made to the town of Isle au Haut for the current year. For the coming year, a request for funds was discussed and a plan of action to be determined.

Membership – the line between members vs. interested parties has become somewhat blurred. Discussion ensued regarding how to provide clarity of membership. Bob suggested one possibility would be to mail out a letter offering different levels of membership. Kris suggested an annual membership form similar to other organizations that is mailed out annually. Topic tabled until next meeting.

Upcoming speaking engagements for August will be held at Town Hall at 7:00 PM:

- Jeff Runge – the date regarding right whales has been rescheduled for August 2 (from the 3rd) to accommodate Jeff who has planned a power point presentation.
- Bob Gerber – as scheduled for August 8, hiking off-trail in Acadia (Isle au Haut)
- Glen Mittlehauser – regarding birds of Maine planned for August 15 will need to be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict
- Kathie Fiveash - to present slide show on Aug. 24 regarding her experience working at the island school; will work with Bob Smith to organize photos. Former students will be featured.
- Publicity – Bob will do post information for the speaking engagements, set-up for the talks will be done by members, refreshments will be discussed individually.

Tom proposes the current honoraria amount for off-island speakers remain at \$150 as a thank-you and to cover the mailboat and parking fees while the honoraria for island speakers be modified to \$100 for islanders; the vote to amend was unanimous.

Tom noted the positive experience of the Great Cranberry Isle Historical Society visit to Isle au Haut (August 26) this past summer. Their group numbered approximately 25 and turnout of our island community in response was impressive. In conjunction with church members, we hosted a lunch following the church service. Tom presented a copy of Douglas Duer's special ethnographic report on the *The Park Lands of Isle au Haut* [Acadia National Park] as a gift. In turn, we have been invited to visit Great Cranberry Isle this summer. The Moonbeam has offered to provide transportation on Tuesday, August 13th. There will be room on the boat for about six people. Tom will clarify time of departure and return with Douglas Cornman. Prior to

the next meeting, we need to formulate goal and objectives for the trip (forward your thoughts to Tom).

The email to Tom G. (HS) and Jeff Burke, Lighthouse Committee (LHC) from Peggi Stevens, town selectperson was read by Sue Chamberlain regarding purchase of 'The Keeper's House' by the HS and LHC. Sue raised a few concerns regarding the expense of \$1.9 million and the transition phase facing the LHC in lieu of Jeff Burke's recent resignation. Bob suggested coordination between the two organizations should be ongoing with a commitment to build a strong relationship between the two groups. After much discussion, it was decided the concept as presented by Peggi is not feasible but alternatives remain open for discussion in some form or another in the future. Tom and Bob will pen a response to Peggi as will the LHC.

The first annual HS newsletter was positively received. Therefore, the plan will be to continue with another newsletter perhaps at the time of the next annual report. Brenda will check with Stew Foelix (who set up the HS website in the past) about posting it or suggest who we might recruit to do so. Our HS was featured in the most recent Great Cranberry Island Historical Society newsletter featuring their visit to our island last summer (see pages 20-21). We will consider adding a link to their newsletter.

<http://www.gcihs.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/GCIHS-Cranberry-Chronicle-Number-39-December-2018-FINAL-Single-Pages-12.4.18.pdf>

The minutes of the annual board meeting of August 23, 2018 were unanimously approved with one noted exception: the date of the Great Cranberry Island visit to IAH was amended to August 26 (vs. Aug 28).

Open position for Vice President – tabled to next meeting

Skiff built by Phil Alley now owned by Payson Barter is for sale. It was determined it is not feasible for HS to purchase at present.

Ann Davidson inquired what the current plans are for a location for the historical society. Tom reviewed what options had been discussed so far. He noted Harold van Doren had suggested the Barter property between the Chapman and McDonald properties. Kris noted she had recently met the owners and they have plans to build in the near future. Bob noted the plan to assess space needs of the HS was discussed at the last meeting (including current collections and other available materials) and that would be the first step in a process. Subsequently, the space needs would determine what was needed for a building such as appropriate storage and possibly display space and thirdly, determination of the location. All these steps would result in a well-organized and concrete plan of action that would include building, maintenance and funding concerns.

Maine Archives and Museum (MAM)– we had a membership in the past, renewed by Kris this spring.

Oral history interviews – interviews planned this summer. Brenda will revisit with Fred Eustis regarding his interest and in what format. Ann Davidson requested an oral history interview while she is here; to be scheduled.

Forms – budget process for seeking funds for expense; Brenda will draft a form. A permission form to be drafted by Kris.

Jeff Burke has suggested the HS offer an ongoing slide show possibly at the store with photos or the like. Brenda mentioned the library as a possible location as well; topic tabled until next meeting.

The annual meeting will be scheduled for September possibly the second week.

The date for the next historical society board meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2019 at 10 AM - Town Hall.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Kris Carlson-Lewis
Acting Secretary