

Isle au Haut Historical Society Annual Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2022

Smith Residence

Attending in Person: Tom Guglielmo, Kristen Carlson-Lewis, Bob Smith, Stew Foelix, Wendell Chamberlain, Brenda Clark, Donna Hopkins

Attending on Zoom: Jean Archibald, Mary Fennell , Leslie Knowlton, Rodney Knowlton

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 by Tom Guglielmo and honored the memory of Barbara Brown.

Appreciation expressed by Tom for Marie Hamley (former secretary and long time member), Kris Carlson-Lewis (resigning as secretary), and Brenda Clark (resigning as treasurer) for their time and commitment to the Historical Society. Cards were passed around for those in attendance to sign.

Donna Hopkins will be joining the committee and accepted the role of Secretary. Brenda and Kris will remain as committee members.

The minutes of the 2021 annual meeting were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. The balance at the end of May was \$10,137.15. Tom will need to remove Brenda from the account. He will become acting Treasurer.

The 4th newsletter was sent in April. The appeal at the end of the newsletter brought in 14 new members and \$350 in dues. Kris and Tom assured the group that there is plenty of material to share in future newsletters. Some thought will be given to doing two shorter newsletters per year.

Tom will be working on an annual appeal. There are several lists that exist. Stew is combining into one spreadsheet. Tom would like to have an acknowledgement of donations made.

Bob reviewed the research he's done regarding digitizing software. "ArchivesSpace" appears to be the best solution. It is an open source, web application for managing archives information. More information can be found at <https://archivesspace.org/> He has been trying to reach Adam Fisher at the Maine State Archives to discuss further.

Kris has been indexing the store ledgers and transcribing oral histories. She has answered inquiries from families including the Knowltons, who recently came to the island and met with Tom.

Tom would like to purchase a new recorder. A motion was made and approved for him to go forward with this.

The Selectboard has raised a concern about the collection stored in the Town Offices. Tom will be following up with Peggi about the concern. Kris has spoken with John DeWitt about replacing the glass doors on the cabinets in the reading room with something that would provide more ventilation. This would allow more materials to be stored in those cabinets. Discussion of whether the old PoCo building at the dock would be a good building to house the collection. The IAH Broadband project will be using the back room of this building to house equipment. Others raised concerns about environmental issues with the building. Tom would like to view the space.

Visits with the Great Cranberry and Swans Island Historical Societies were once again put on hold in 2022.

The group felt optimistic about offering programs in 2023 though feasibility will be assessed in January before scheduling. Ideas include: Glen Mittelhauser, Peter Ralston, cemetery tours, house tours, geology, bog tours. Sally Smith joined the discussion to share her idea of a retrospective art exhibit of Ruth van Doren's work. Sally will be pursuing this in 2023. Wendell and Donna shared that the Lighthouse Committee was planning a celebration on National Lighthouse Day - August 7th.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13.

Respectively submitted,
Donna Hopkins