

**Starksboro Historical Society (SHS)**

**Date: 11-04-24**

**Location: Starksboro Public Library**

**Time: 6:30PM - 8:20PM**

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Dan Baker, Kevin Hanson, Olive Phillips, Peg Casey, Herb Olson, Ruth Beecher

**MEMBERS/VISITORS PRESENT:** Elsa Gilbertson, Cecilia Elwert, Mike Blakeslee

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Motions were made and seconded to approve all minutes from 9/9/24, 9/20/24 (Lost Nation program), and 10/11/24 (History of VT Rt 17 program). We discussed recording future events, i.e. through NEAT TV, Zoom, or purchasing equipment. Meanwhile, Kevin recorded the VT Rt 17 program with his phone and is in touch with NEAT TV to potentially upload for all to see.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Beginning balance \$2,373.25 with \$640.13 in deposits (\$600 Lost Nation film, \$40 Roads Booklets and \$0.13 interest, \$418.83 in expenses (\$100 Rent to Meeting House for film viewing, \$304.38 Collections Room supplies, and \$14.45 checks), and accruals (\$70.62 Collections Room supplies); uncommitted balance \$2,523.93. Kevin shared a detailed list he and Elsa made of supplies purchased for the Collections Room. A motion was made, seconded and approved to cover \$17.88 balance for Kevin. (Original NTE amount was \$375.)

**ARCHIVIST REPORT:** Kevin Hanson, Treasurer and Archivist, created a work station in the SHS Collections Room (located upstairs in the Town Office building). He shared notes regarding entering SHS materials into the ReCollector software program, storage and organization of materials, and more. To consider: what to put in our Collections to keep it 'pure'. Kevin also created a draft Collections Management Policy (tabled until next meeting) - we thanked him profusely for all of this legwork!

**PROGRAMS/EVENTS:** None scheduled at this time.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Dan moved the SHS boxes that were stored in the library to the Collections Room. Discussion ensued regarding digitizing VHS and audio tapes for preservation; possible ways to create stabilized temperature/humidity in the Collections Room; having a ReCollector evening to scan photos with the community, and another night to share and talk about the photos.

Bylaws: discussion regarding being able to meet in person, remote/hybrid, or alternatively by email correspondence. Unanimous Written Consent shall be a separate line. Draft form in process for this action under Article VI - Board of Trustees.

Vt 250th Anniversary Commission: a motion was made, seconded and approved for SHS to join (Ruth will start the process.) As stated by the VT250th, *"In 2020, Governor Scott established the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission (VT250th) to plan, encourage, develop, coordinate, and promote observances and activities to be held in Vermont in commemoration of the historic events associated with the American Revolution. To this end, the VT250th Commission will begin commemorations in 2025 with the capture of Fort Ticonderoga and Westminster Massacre, and finish in 2027 with Vermont's signature anniversary year marking the founding of Vermont and the campaign of 1777, which included the battles of Hubbardton and Bennington, and evacuation of Mount Independence. These commemorative milestone years are an important time that provides the perfect platform to take stock of where we have been and to enable planning for our future. This three-year anniversary period will allow all Vermont communities to share their histories, which include stories more diverse than are commonly known and can serve to unify all Vermonters. The VT250th Commission encourages every organization and community to take part, no matter how big or small the event(s) or activities. The way in which you commemorate Vermont's history will be decided by your organization."*

More on this as it develops, but we quickly discussed sharing reenactments, old time tools, crafts and other hands-on activities, and a sermon in the Meeting House. Elsa suggested we all read the 1976 chapter in Bertha's Book (pages 74-80) as homework as it details Starksboro's Official Bicentennial Week! Meanwhile, Dan will connect with the Select Board to explore potentially planning together.

Vermont Historical Society (VHS): A motion was made, seconded and approved for SHS to pay a \$50 annual fee for SHS to rejoin this organization. For more info: <https://vermonthistory.org/>

Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA): A motion was made, seconded and approved for SHS to pay a \$20 annual fee for SHS to join this organization. For more info: <https://www.vermontoldcemeteryassociation.com/>

**PARKING LOT:**

PO Box procurement - yes or no?

Future Meetings: how often to meet, create schedule (day of month, time, location)

Collections Committee - ReCollector photo scanning evening

Community presentations vs smaller programs as part of regular meetings

Collections Management Policy

Bylaws

**PROGRAM IDEAS:**

Pat Melvin music

Robinson School students at Meeting House

SHS event combined with Select Board's monthly community event

Ice Cream social

Crown Point Bridge sharing

VT250th

**NEXT MEETING: ANNUAL MEETING**

Date: January 27, 2025

Time: 6:30PM

Location: Starksboro Town Office

**CLOSING:** Dan adjourned the meeting at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Beecher