

## **Starksboro Historical Society**

**Minutes 10/7/25**

### **Starksboro Public Library**

Attendance: Dan Baker, Olive Phillips, Elsa Gilbertson, Kevin Hanson

The meeting began at 6:30 PM

Dan offered to take minutes for this evening. We still need a Secretary.

Dan read out Herb Olson's minutes from September. Kevin moved and Olive seconded approval of the minutes from 9/8/25. Motion passed 4-0.

Treasurer's Report: Kevin distributed our balance sheet for the period 9/9/2025 to 10/7/2025. Members reviewed and minor changes were made. The SHS had some income from book sales at the Harvest Festival. Community Bank Balance \$6,815.86. Uncommitted Balance \$6,853.36. Kevin suggested dropping the charge back to the Library as they paid it back to the Vermont Humanities Counsel.

Elsa moved and Olive seconded approval of the Treasurers Report as amended . Motion passed 4-0.

Archivists Report: There has been no archival activity this month. He has done some explorations and shared some newspaper clippings from Newspapers.com from August 25, 1899. Members thought we should have more of this kind of fun and interesting historical tidbits.

Cecelia emailed that a date has been set for the Jerusalem Schoolhouse Reminiscing Program is from 2-4pm on Sunday 11/9. They're contacting students who went to JSH. We're also in middle of assessing what happens to items in JSH and asks whether the SHS would want ephemera, etc. Members said most likely yes after we've had a chance to assess what items are being donated.

Dan will write Cecelia asking if we should meet before the JSH meeting. If yes, we'll meet on Nov. 4 at 6:30. And if not, our next meeting will be Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> with Kevin's Carpenter-Hawkins General Store presentation. We'll send notice in FPF and to membership to let them know.

Cecelia emailed that she hopes townsfolk will be interested in brush cutting around the boundaries of the Jerusalem Cemetery, on Sun 10/19 from 9-12. Please join if you can-bring loppers, pruners. hand saws, shovel, gloves, snack and water. We'll have JSH open and some refreshments in there as part of our now monthly neighborly get togethers. Dress for the weather and getting in the thick of vegetation.

The SHS discussed purchasing a lockable display case or two so that the public can see some of the items in our archive, perhaps one here in the library and another in the JSH. Members felt this could be a good use of the funds left us by Gerald Heffernan.

Vermont 250<sup>th</sup>: Elsa went to a regional planning meeting for Vermont and New York. The simultaneous bell ringing on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the simultaneous reading of the Declaration of Independence, possibly on July 8. Dates for the latter are still in process. Elsa also mentioned the upcoming Ken Burns series on the Revolutionary War. There will be events around this series in several sites around the region. There's also discussion of an art project for students.

We discussed some things we can do here for the 250<sup>th</sup>, including old farm equipment, scything demonstrations, as well as Mike Blakeslee's sermon. There are several folks around who are pretty good with scythes. We should decide where we want to do the scything demonstration and ask that a section of grass be allowed to grow for the demonstration. We could also do the bicentennial play again.

The meeting ended at 8:10

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Baker