

June 7, 2010

Bethel Historical Society Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Nick Nikolaidis at 6:58 PM in the Black Forest Cafe.

Members in attendance: Nick Nikolaidis, Greg Fedak, Susan Fedak, Kevin Flynn, Heidi Nikolaidis, Bill Johansen, Fran Johansen, Don Brown, Don Hyde, Becky Farmer, Loraine Putnam, Louise Putnam, Noelle Duggan, Rose Leonard, Earl Farrington, Helen Miller

Secretary's Report: Submitted by Kevin Flynn on 5/3/10, accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Susan Fedak on 6/7/10, accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

Progress on Town Hall-downstairs is being sheet rocked. Old windows may become available to interested individuals or organizations. Don Hyde points out the maintenance of the sprinkler system is a seven day a week job as per his experience. He also suggested that items in the museum be placed at least a foot away from the walls to minimize any water runoff damage if the sprinkler system is activated.

Report on History Expo 2010-Nick Nikolaidis reported that only one table will be available for the entire Bethel exhibit. Don Hyde still feels that this space limitation will preclude an effective exhibit combining Bethel Mills and the mills of East Bethel. As a result he is canceling his participation. Lang Durfee was contacted by both Nick and Don and stated that he can furnish material about Bethel Mills but his schedule precludes his participation. The following BHS members are able to cover the Bethel booth:

Friday-Heidi and Nick, Greg and Susan to set up.

Saturday-Greg and Susan, with Rose Leonard a possibility.

Sunday-Bill and Fran in the morning, Loraine and Louise in the afternoon.

Programs lined up for late summer and fall-Nick has lined up Bill Minsinger to present on the flood of 1927 and the hurricane of 1938. Tom Perera can present on the Peavine Railroad.

Report on "The Italian Invasion of Bethel" book-Bill Johansen states the he is proceeding with work on this. His work has progressed to a completed outline of the book that he shared. He is collating photographs, newspaper articles and anecdotal accounts.

New computer and Past Perfect program-. Heidi and Susan report that the new computer is operational with the software loaded and in use. They report that some documentation attesting to the age of the fife has been found which may

prompt a reappraisal. Stereopticon photos of Bethel and Ruben McIntosh photos have also been found.

New Business

Report on Postcard and History Fair- Susan will present a detailed report on profits at the next open meeting. Dealers were asked by Nick whether to hold next year's fair on Memorial Day weekend or the weekend preceding it. Feedback pointed to the preceding weekend so this has been scheduled with the high school. One dealer felt that the fair was better organized than the one in New York he had just attended and that the postcard advertizing was unique. This dealer also was impressed with the novelty of the history themes.

Treasurer's Report for better accounting-Susan has proposed a new account system that woudn allocate funds into different clearly marked centers. She will present more information at the next open meeting.

Meeting with Bethel Selectboard Monday 6/14/2010 at 7PM-An officer of the BHS needs to be nominated and confirmed to negotiate a lease agreement with the selectboard. Nick Nikolaidis was nominated and confirmed by unanimous voice vote. The selectboard will also need copies of the BHS incorporation papers, by-laws, IRS tax status documents and last year's annual report. Nick encouraged as many members who can to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Flynn

Secretary