

# Newbury Historical Society

## Board Meeting

January 4, 2007

Board members present: J. Grocott, A. Lynn, B. Morris, B. Steward, M. Weiler and W. Weiler  
Guests: Diana Morris, Donna and Dick Matte, Kathleen Hurley

President Bill Weiler called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Minutes of the meeting of November 3, 2006 were accepted as corrected (see attached).

Treasurer's Report: 11/3/06 – 1/4/07, presented by Treasurer Margie Weiler.

The General Account decreased from \$ 5,120.97 to \$ 4,865.13..

The Life Member Account decreased from \$ 3,900.00 to \$ 3,800.00.

The Conservation Fund increased from \$ 1,115.96 to \$ 1,116.54.

Total assets decreased from \$ 10,136.13 to \$ 9,781.67.

## Old Business

**Contact information for businesses in town:** Diana will provide this information to Barbara.

**History Club:** John presented an overview of the newly named Sherman Ayer History Club and read the notes from their initial meeting (see attached). The Club, a committee of the Society, is dedicated to the parents of Ernest L. Sherman and Clifford W. Ayer and the purpose is to deliver Newbury History to the community. Club members could also assist Dean Geddes with his proposal for the History Chapter in the Town's Master Plan.

Initial tasks include publishing a NHS Newsletter in February and research to locate the oldest houses in town. This newsletter should reach as many residents of the town as possible and should include a variety of topics. Tracy has written histories of various buildings in town, Joe could cover the Hay Estate and Bill offered to write about the Center Meeting House. Margie offered to be available at the Library to assist residents with genealogical research. This publication should also be used to thank our Business Members. The Club's next meeting will be on January 17, 2007 at 7:00 PM at Alice Lynn's.

**Sherman Hall:** John presented an update on Sherman Hall (see attached) and proposed opening the building on Saturdays from 2:00 – 4:00 PM from May 2 – November 3, 2007. He also discussed the progress to date in organizing the four areas of the building. His goal is for us to organize the vault by the end of April, 2007 and begin cataloging May 1<sup>st</sup>. He would also like to encourage worthwhile donations and publicize this during the Annual Meeting. He needs assistance from Alice, Bill and the town before the back room on the second floor can be organized.

**Past Perfect Training:** Margie reported that she and Barbara attended Past Perfect software training in Concord and that it will cost \$300 to upgrade our version to 4.0. Discussion and vote were tabled until the March meeting.

**Proposal for the architectural study of Town Hall:** Bill indicated that the Selectmen would like the proposal to include the evaluation of all three buildings (Town Hall, Sherman Hall and the Grange). Bill will follow up with the architect and the Selectmen.

**New Business:**

Bob introduced a proposal to place markers on historic homes to indicate the date when each was built. Diana and Kathleen then presented the details and requested assistance from the Society (see attached). Diana also offered three sample markers made by Rich Cole. Discussion ensued on ways to document such dates and how to reach homeowners and gain broad support. It was decided to start with a table and handouts at Town Meeting.

Bob made a motion to adopt the proposal as presented to place markers on historic buildings and to endorse a publicity policy and offer financial support. The motion was seconded and passed.

Consensus resulted in the following:

- The Society will review ads prior to publication.
- Ads should be large enough and be placed in newspapers and newsletters.
- Aaron Aldridge might be encouraged to write an article for the Argus.
- We should utilize all potential publicity options offered by the Town.
- The specific amount of financial support was tabled until the March meeting.
- Bill requested an update on the project in March.
- It was decided to start with 10 of the oldest houses rather than the 10 oldest structures.

Alice expressed appreciation to John for his work in Sherman Hall – all agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, B. Steward

**Board of Directors and elected terms:**

**July 2006 – 2009**

Deane Geddes  
Margie Weiler  
Bill Weiler

**July 2005 - 2008**

John Grocott  
Dennis Pavlicek  
Barbara Steward

**July 2004 - 2007**

Alice Lynn  
Bob Morris (elected by the Board 9/06)  
One vacancy due to resignation of J. Cronin