

DRAFT
Chebeague Historical Society
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
May 16, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Chebeague Historical Society was held this date via Zoom.

Trustees Present: Mary Holt (President), Jackie Trask (Vice President), Jill Whitman Marsee (Secretary), Carol Sabasteanski (Treasurer), Chip Emery, Pat Festino, Gretchen Tonks Hartling, David Hill, Sarah Hopkins, Beth McNulty

Trustees Absent: Evin Erder, Ehrhardt Groothoff, Richard Hackel, Marjorie Munroe

Staff present: Donna Damon

Mary Holt, president, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm EDT.

Minutes

Motion made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2022 Trustee meeting.

President's Report

There was no president's report this month.

Treasurer's Report

Carol distributed the Treasurers report, with profit and loss and balance sheet, by email prior to the meeting. Year to date gross profit (cash in) is at a loss of \$14,500 compared to last year's gain at this time of \$34,000; this is due to purchases for the shop merchandise and less grant income. Year to date expenses are at \$28,000 compared to \$38,400 2021. \$1100 was saved in bookkeeping expenses. \$6500 will be transferred from Named Special Funds.

Motion made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Committee Reports

Collections:

- Donna reported that she signed up for a \$10 workshop through New England Association of Museums titled "How to use archeology and archives in exhibits". She hopes it will be helpful for creating exhibits.
- Donna also reported that this summer Jill and Gretchen will be looking at the slides that were donated by the Stelle family.
- Mary reported that a painting that had been donated to the museum that was unwrapped and it had a note on the back saying "A Souvenir of Great Chebeague, Sunday July 26, 1914, Am appreciative, John Calvin Stevens." that said, "to commemorate my time on Chebeague." Stevens was an architect and artist and the signature has been authenticated by Earle Shuttleworth.

Exhibit:

- Donna reported that nearly all the sections of the exhibit are up. The text still needs to be written and printed. She is doing the final check to make sure that there is something up from everyone who donated for this exhibit. Donna wonders about having a celebration of the exhibit opening on the 4th of July, although it is likely to open before then.

Museum Shops:

- Museum Shop:

- Beth reported that they are all set up (and looking quite nice!), having received most of what was ordered. She has been in communication with Janelle and is hoping that the shop can open on Memorial Day weekend.
 - If Janelle cannot work that weekend, Beth would love to have volunteers – Pat, Gretchen, and Mary offered.
- Beth said there are lots of new items – sweatshirts, jewelry, tee-shirts, children’s books – so stop by and check them out!
- Beth has an idea for the bumper sticker to give to members and donors: “Chebeague – A History of Family, Friends, and Fun.” She will investigate potential cost with vendors.
- Artisan Shop – Mary reported that Kim and John Martin are selling their house and moving off island. Kim has asked that her bio and art be removed from the Artisan Shop. Mary is grateful to Chip and Gretchen for all their technical support.
 - The plan to move the Artisan Shop from Wix to Square should be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Publications:

- Donna reported that the next *Sloop’s Log* will be published in the fall.
- Gretchen has been updating the website. The section for the *Sloop’s Log* has some problems that she is working on.
 - She will include pictures of some of the museum shop merchandise when she receives them from Beth.
- Carol reported that the June newsletter is due by noon on the 20th. Items will include Annual meeting and associated book signing, Museum Shop opening (and pictures of merchandise), and other usual monthly materials.

Technology:

- Chip shared a document that was created when the first Mac was purchased for CIHS! How times have changed!
- The server has been installed and the professional technical support seems to be useful. He is thrilled that all the files are being professionally and regularly backed up! Donna mentioned had noticed that there was an error message associated with each backup and she contacted Joe and he is investigating.
- Donna said there are printer issues, especially when someone else has used it and gave it special instructions. Joe keeps trying to fix these issues. There is no reliable printer for Donna to print to at this point and she is very frustrated; she plans to go buy a personal printer that she can use for the exhibit materials. Chip will see if he can help.

Buildings & Grounds:

- Ehrhardt was not present.

Membership/Annual Appeal:

- Mary said that Donna had raised the issue that many previous members had not responded to the annual membership and donation appeal. Donna has updated the list of those who have not responded. Mary will write a reminder letter (and have Donna review it) and send it out.

Programs:

- Mary has heard a lot of great feedback about Colin Woodard’s lecture. Donna said it was “400 years of Maine history in 55 minutes!” The hope is to schedule him in the future for a talk about *American Nations*.
- The next lecture will be in person at the Annual Meeting on June 11 at the Island Hall. It will be given by on Dr. Chuck Radis who is the author of *Go by Boat: Stories of a Maine Island Doctor*. Mary is hoping to be able to have Zoom and in person at the same time, and she will confer with Melissa from the church about how they do it. Gretchen said that the challenge is how to show slides to the Zoom audience (can’t have both the speaker and the slides).

Old Business

The **Nominating Committee** composed of Mary Holt, Sarah Hopkins, Beth McNulty, and Carol Sabasteanski proposed the nominees of trustees for 3-year terms at the April meeting: Jackie Trask, David Hill, Mary Holt, and Carol Sabasteanski.

- **Motion** made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the nominees to be brought to vote at the annual meeting.

New Business

Maine Historic Preservation Matching Grant – Donna and Mary reported on the receipt of \$5000 toward the window restoration and painting of the building. The grantor expects photo documentation at the completion of the project.

Planning Meeting: Donna described Jim Cram who was executive Director of the Freeport Historical Society and helped shepherd them through a major fund-raising endeavor. Donna spoke with him about talking with the board about ‘how do you get to the next step’ as a case study from Freeport. There was discussion about whether to meet in person or by Zoom.

- Questions were raised about the purpose and structure of the time (or workshop with him): What do we want to talk with him about? How long would the meeting last? There is need to do planning in advance based on our priorities from the strategic planning last spring.
 - A subcommittee of Beth and Sarah was established to think about this and report back.

Recompense Grant application – Donna, Carol, and Ehrhardt worked on the grant application Recompense for \$12,000 to restore the windows and paint the building. The application was submitted at the end of April. Announcement of the decision by Recompense will be forthcoming.

Phragmites: Mary sent out an email with information about phragmites in advance of the meeting. She thinks that it should be a priority to limit and eventually eradicate the plants on the CIHS property.

- A motion to have a professional come and help with the removal was made, seconded, and failed.
- Further discussion suggested that more investigation needs to be done before making a decision on how to proceed. Mary will coordinate this and contact Erno, someone from the state, find out the cost, and report back.

Gratitude was expressed to Chip for his service on the board as this is his final meeting.

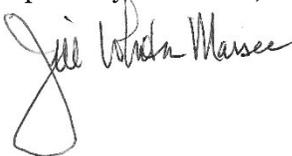
There were no additional issues from the board.

There being no further business, a **Motion**, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

The Annual Meeting will be **7 pm on June 11th, 2022** at the Island Hall.

The next Board meeting will be **7 PM on June 20th, 2022** via Zoom (or in person?).

Respectfully Submitted,



Jill Whitman Marsee, Secretary