



CHEBEAGUE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Members Meeting Minutes - DRAFT June 10, 2023

Beth McNulty, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. The meeting was held in hybrid format, with 27 attendees present at the Chebeague Island Hall and 6 others attending via Zoom.

- **Introduction of the Board Members**

Beth read off the names of current board members and asked them to identify themselves.

- **Tribute to Marjorie Munroe**

Donna said that Marjorie was involved with the Chebeague Island Historical Society from the very beginning. She was on the Board for much of this time and was the longest serving board member. She was an extraordinary volunteer and was famous for her “clipping” of newspaper articles and creating scrapbooks.

- **Minutes from 2022 Annual Meeting**

A **MOTION** was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes.

- **President’s Report**

As Mary Holt, President, was unable to attend the meeting due to illness, Beth McNulty, Vice President gave the President’s Report.

Beth thanked Mary for her willingness to jump in and serve as President and her guidance of the organization during Covid. She never shied away from planning, volunteering, and managing many projects. We look forward to her continued volunteer days! Beth presented Mary with flowers and a token of our appreciation on the previous day.

Beth reported achievements of 2022 and year-to-date 2023.

CIHS publications include the Sloops Log (the upcoming Volume 2), the monthly newsletter, and the website. We are getting ready to launch our email program!

The Museum Shop has continued to be successful. The online shop was discontinued due to the labor involved in maintaining it. Our 2023 season has

started. New employee Binkie Boxer is working Tues-Sat, 11-4 and returning volunteer Jackie Cross is working every Sunday 1-4.

Several projects have been accomplished in our facility over the last couple years. Heat pumps were installed in 2021/2022, in large part funded by a Raymond Family Foundation grant. A computer network was installed, funded in large part by a Recompense grant. A public hotspot was introduced in 2022. A current project is restoring the windows and painting the exterior of the building, thanks to a Maine Historical Preservation grant. We also owe Erhardt a huge thank you for the management of this project and doing a lot of the work himself.

Monthly Zoom Ellsworth Miller lectures continue to be offered and Cap Leonard is thanked for his continuing support of these lectures. The July 24th presentation (which will be both in person and on Zoom) is by Dwayne Tomah, supported by a Maine Humanities Council Arts and Humanities grant. He will share 1890 Passamaquoddy Wax Cylinder recordings as well as indigenous music, dance and storytelling honoring the language, culture, knowledge, and truth of his Native Community. A Maine Humanities Council Arts and Humanities grant will help fund this lecture. The schedule also includes August 28th – Cap Leonard and Bill Danielson will be presenting “Portland Gale 1898” and on September 25th Nick Wessell will present “Putin Again”.

Other programs include a Harvest Open House in October. There will be an exciting program on August 13th where we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Schoolhouse. The afternoon will include events for children, book signings, and refreshments. The building will be rededicated and attendees of the District 9 Schoolhouse will be honored. The ticketed evening event will include appetizers, lobster bake, live jazz music, a raffle, and dessert.

The “Growing Up on Chebeague” exhibit opened in July 2022, under the guidance of Donna. It includes an amazing collection of photos and artifacts that capture the special moments of Chebeague life. Approximately 2500 visitors have seen the exhibit and the feedback was fantastic. The new Exhibit Committee has been busy since September, and they have created a plan for a future exhibit. This new exhibit will be permanent, with areas to rotate artifacts from our extensive archives. We have just recently been notified that we will receive a Recompense grant for \$6500 to support the new permanent exhibit.

A seascape painting by Ira Hamilton (b. Chebeague 1868) was purchased for the collection; this acquisition was funded by the Leonard fund. Ira Hamilton was a well-known, self-trained, professional violinist who played for the Portland Symphony. He was also a painter and Photographer. A 1943 Army Christmas Dinner Menu that included names of all the soldiers who were stationed on Chebeague at that time was also purchased.

Beth thanked Donna, our most treasured asset, for all her years of service as curator and volunteer. She has spent countless hours teaching, researching and

amazing all of us with her knowledge of Chebeague. Donna has informed the board that she will step away from daily tasks at the museum after June 2024 to focus on writing and more in-depth research about Chebeague.

A **MOTION** was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the President's Report.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Carol Sabasteanski, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. The report, balance sheet, and profit and loss statement were available at the meeting.

Carol reported that 2022 Total Gross Profit (revenue) was \$79,200. There was a decline in donations (\$11,300 from the prior year) which was largely due a fundraising campaign in late 2021 that raised \$10,000 to qualify for a matching grant from the Raymond Family Foundation. Museum shop income (sales minus cost of goods sold) was \$10,300 less than 2021 – partly due to the discontinuation of the online store. In 2022, grants were received from the Maine Preservation Foundation (\$5,000) and The Recompense Foundation (\$9,000) to partially fund our current window restoration and exterior painting project.

2022 Total Operating Expenses were \$94,500 – Approximately \$27,000 of these expenses will be capitalized, resulting in total operating expenses of approximately \$67,500. Items to be capitalized include 1) expenses on the window restoration and painting project and 2) the purchase of computer equipment and installation of a network.

2022 Net Operating Income was a loss of \$15,300. This is largely due to less grant income and reduced donations. After capitalization, there will be an operating profit of approximately \$11,700.

Other Income was a loss of \$47,100 – due to unrealized losses in our investment accounts.

Net Income was a loss of \$62,400 – which will be a loss of approximately \$35,400 after capitalization adjustments to be made by the CPA.

The 2023 numbers always look worse in May due to all the purchases made for the Museum Shop and only limited sales to date. Donations are up from last year and we are gaining in the market.

A **MOTION** was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

- **Election of Trustees**

A **MOTION** was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to elect the slate of trustee candidates shown below.

TRUSTEE – Re-election (3-year term)	New TRUSTEES (3-year term)
Evin Erder	Phyllis Brunner
Patricia Festino	Bill Danielson
Ehrhardt Groothoff	Martha (Meg) Greene
Beth McNulty	Chris Landry
	Kate Nyhan

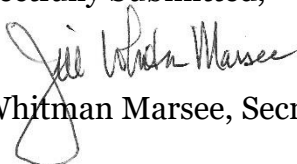
- The **Volunteer of the Year** for 2023 is Doug Damon. He was recognized for going out of his way to volunteer at the museum and putting in countless hours. He never hesitates to show up with his toolbox and respond to requested needs!
- **New Business**
 - Tad Runge came forward and said that he loves to restore old houses. His most recent project is a circa 1850 post and beam house from Bridgton, ME that he is reconstruction on John Small Road. For the project he needed vintage materials, including 500 bricks for the chimney. Bo Beaupre allowed Tad to look through the bricks from the old Hamilton Villa that were in Wayne’s pit. Tad is donating to the museum a brick that has a 2 masted schooner inscribed on it.

A **MOTION** was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM.

“The Schoolhouse” Presentation – Donna Miller Damon

At the conclusion of the annual meeting, Donna Miller Damon gave a detailed presentation about the history of the building that the Chebeague Island Historical Society occupies. The official name of the building is “Museum of Chebeague History at the District 9 Schoolhouse.” It opened in 1873 and Donna said, “it is our most important artifact.” Donna shared many interesting facts and stories about the school building, its operation, the students, and the teachers.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jill Whitman Marsee, Secretary