

DHAS Board Meeting of Aug. 29, 2019
At Russells Mills Schoolhouse

The meeting at the schoolhouse was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Robert Harding, Robert Barboza, Donald Plant, Kathy Plant, Dan Socha, Richard Gifford, Sally Aldrich, Marian Ryall, Jeff King.

The minutes of the July 25, 2019 meeting were presented by Sally Aldrich, and after review, a motion by Jeff King to approve the minutes was seconded by Dan Socha, and approved on a 8-0-1 vote, with Robert Barboza abstaining.

Mr. Harding read a thank you note to Ruth Ekstrom of Princeton, New Jersey, gratefully acknowledging her donation of historical materials to society archives. Mr. Harding distributed a brochure explaining the Friends Records transcription project, and advised that a press conference announcing a \$10,000 donation to the effort is being planned. The chair was commended for his production of the brochure.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Plant corrected the financial report from the last meeting, with updated expenses of \$416.25, and giving a June ending balance of \$17,212.81. This month, a July 17 ending balance of \$17,458.73 was reported. A motion to accept the two reports came from Marian Ryall, was seconded by Richard Gifford, and passed 9-0.

Membership Report: None.

Publicity Committee: Dan Socha reported the mail list has grown to 287 names; the Stringer interview and Wisdom of Our Elders photos are up on the DHAS website; information about the Quaker Records project is also on the web page. There was some discussion about the official name of the project, with Mr. King suggesting the Religious Society of Friends Records Project be used; the general consensus was for the Friends (Quaker) Records Project.

Programming Report: The chair reported on the successful and well-attended Wisdom of Our Elders banquet at Rachel's Lakesider; he recommended that Elsie Haskell be on the next list of nominees. The upcoming schedule includes Cukie Macomber on Oct. 6; and a lecture invitation extended to old house restoration expert Jennifer Johnson Mercier of Old Westport Road.

Housekeeping Committee: Kathy reported on eight vendors attending the (8-24) fall yard sale, and collecting \$192 in revenue including the donation of \$82 in sales receipts by Meredith Cornell. It was noted that final preparations are being made for the Sept. 7 Come Back In Time event; volunteers are still needed for that program.

Research Committee: Mr. Harding reported speaking to Pam Cole about the possible addition of old records from Hixville and Smith Mills Churches being added to the society's web page databases.

Old Business: Fundraising ideas for the Friends (Quaker) Record Project were briefly discussed, with a \$30,000 estimate given for transcripts and printing of all removals, and other early meeting records. For additional costs to review, print, and post materials to the website, an overall budget of \$50,000 was suggested by Mr. Barboza, and seemed agreeable to a majority of members. On the matter of

membership in the Save Old Southworth organization, Robert Barboza made a motion to join as a Partner at a cost of \$100; seconded by Sally Aldrich, and passed 10-0.

Updates on the informational kiosk, coming soon when school starts; no update on historical plaques; a donation of materials about Carrollton Heights was noted, which revived the discussion about the need for a ledger list of donated items, and all materials in society archives. It was noted that Sue Guiducci is working on that list. Mr. Socha raised the need for an internet router needed to create a web hot spot at the schoolhouse; a heavy duty phone card, \$150 or so, would also be needed. A motion to approve the purchases of router and phone card was made by Sally Aldrich, seconded by Jeff King, and passed 10-0.

New Business: Mr. King reported signing up for Westport Historical Society grave cleaning workshop; a Hixville Cemetery will be the trained volunteers' first project.

A motion to adjourn came at 8 p.m. by Dan Socha, seconded by Jeff King; the vote was 10-0 in favor.