

April 2, 2008

General Meeting Loudon Historical Society

Attendance:

Bob Ordway (Board Member)
Ron Lane (President)
Michele York (Vice President)
Cynthia Babonis (Secretary)
Fay Atkinson
Retta Weaver
Jean Kane
Carisa Corrow
John Plummer
Susan Kowalski
Roy Merrill
Roger Maxfield
Wesley Jones
Charles Bratko
Kristen Bratko
Elena Robbins

Minutes of March '08 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The following people in attendance asked to be assigned to the Cemetery committee:

Sue Kowalski
Fay Atkinson
Jean Kane
Carisa Corrow
John Plummer
Elena Robbins

Their names and e-mail addresses will be added to the LHS e-mail group (if not there already) and the Cemetery Committee list.

Michele York announced that the first recorded oral history is complete (Bob Ordway's)! The digital recorder was given to Cynthia Babonis to take home and copy the recording onto a CD. Cynthia reported that the oral history questions were given to Polly Locke for her to complete in writing as Mrs. Locke is unable to participate in a recorded interview for medical reasons. Cynthia also reported that David Colby agreed to record his parent's oral histories if he can borrow the digital recorder for it. Cynthia agreed to make an appointment with David to hand over the recorder and

the questions. It was agreed that the recorder shouldn't be loaned out for more than a week. There were suggestions for encouraging more volunteers to obtain oral histories, such as acquiring another recording device etc.

Carisa Corrow, a teacher for the MV school district, inquired as to how her students can help with the cemetery project. Students can earn community service credits for this. The committee suggested that the students can help by photographing stones and documenting their photographs. Perhaps data entry. Carisa plans to have the students begin on May 2nd. The Cemetery Committee will meet on April 28th at the museum to review the plans for the students. This led to discussion about the need for software specific to this purpose. Wesley Jones agreed to consult other HS's and the State Archives to find out what type of database they use for cemetery documentation.

Retta Weaver submitted her copy of the "Historical Sketch of the 1st Settlement & Incidents of the Township of Loudon" cir 1876. Bob Ordway will get this photocopied for the HS. There was ongoing discussion about the ultimate goal of writing the History of Loudon. Corisa suggested we consider LULU.com self publishing. Michele noted that Ruth Sanborn King's book, Listen to the Crickets, was published this way. Michele presented a guide to composing a town history that she found on the Web. Bob Ordway agreed to make copies.

An E-mail from Galen Beale (acting curator) was reviewed. Sections of original 19th century stencils discovered during restoration of the Freewill Baptist Church, were donated by Steve and Betty Gail Fifield. Under the tin panelling on the walls and ceiling of the church there were stencils that were in such disrepair that they could not be saved. Several people in town, including Galen, have photographs of the stencils taken before they were removed.

Cynthia suggested that the HS needs an answering machine that is remotely accessible so that we can receive calls and leave greetings to alert members of meeting cancellations or other important changes. The committee directors approved the purchase of an answering machine.

The next General meeting will be May 7th, 7pm at Charlie's Barn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Babonis
LHS Secretary