Greensboro Historical Society Meeting Minutes Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018

Members in attendance:
Willie Smith, Clive Gray, Lise Armstrong, Kyle Gray, Paula Harmon, Janet Long, Barbara Brooke

The meeting was called to order.
Lise circulated a collection of family photos taken in Greensboro by her grandmother and great grandmother.

Today we had a natural history moment. Clive brought copies of the publication: A Guide to the Natural History of The Northern Rivers Land Trust Area, by Susan Sawyer.

Willie spoke about the forests and natural areas in and around Greensboro. Nancy also noted that at the back of The History of Greensboro - The First Two Hundred Years, Appendix 16 is titled The Birds of the Greensboro Area and Appendix 17 is the Long Pond Survey which contains lists of plants and animals native to the area.

Lise will be responsible for the history moment at our next meeting.

The subject of our Winter Program in March will be “The Selectboard.” There was discussion about inviting the principle past members who are available, to meet at 11am on February 13th (prior to our scheduled monthly meeting) to discuss the format of their presentation in March. Nancy, Kyle and Willie will work on this.

The Secretary’s report was reviewed, a spelling error was identified, and it was accepted.

Clive gave the Treasurer’s report and distributed copies of the proposed budget for 2018. He noted that the Vanguard interest income had reduced our deficit and that we had received almost $9,000.00 in donations. Donations had been made in memory of lost loved ones and from several of the China Hands families, who also became new GHS members.

Clive also informed the group that we receive $150.00 a year from the VT Community Loan Fund from interest (3%) earned.

As for the proposed 2018, there had been a question raised about the gardening budget. Nancy said that we spend at least $200.00 annually on mulch. A small group will meet to help weed lilies in the spring to help defray the gardening expense.

Nancy moved that we increase the budget for archiving, essentially the salary for Kyle and Leslie, from $4,000.00 to $5,000.00 and that we increase the proposed $500.00 for archiving materials to $1,000.00. In total this would be an increase of $1,500.00. The motion was approved. The Treasurer’s report and amended 2018 budget was accepted.

Business
Lise volunteered to take down the Christmas tree in the window of the GHS.

Nancy thanked Jenny for another wonderful newsletter.

Acquisitions
Nancy reported that we had received several Greensboro postcards from someone in Wisconsin.
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Nancy said that we have a copy of the Blockhouse book and mentioned the excellent article that recently ran in the Burlington Free Press about the blockhouse project.
She also showed the group a large stack of black and white photos from 1977 - 1983, given to her from the archives of the Hardwick Gazette and thanks to Elizabeth Dow and Lorraine Hussey, all photos have been dated and labeled.

Summer Program
Our summer program exhibit for 2018 will be comprised largely of Lise Armstrong’s family photos of Greensboro.

Annual Meeting
The GHS annual meeting will be held on the first Monday in August, the 6th, at 7:30pm at Fellowship Hall. There was discussion about a meeting subject. Erika suggested a speaker, Bobby Farlice-Rubio, a science educator at the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury, who gives a presentation about indigenous people of this region. She thought he charged $100.00 per presentation.
Erika will contact Mr. Farlice-Rubio as to his availability and find out more information about his program.
Nancy noted that the church should be contacted to reserve the date for the program.

New Business
Willie said that we needed someone to organize our various publications, inventory them, ensure that prices are consistent and arrange them in our museum shop, a corner manager person. Paula agreed to take on this project.
Nancy suggested that we review the GHS by laws to see if they need updating. Barbara volunteered to read through them with Nancy.
Nancy said that she had been contacted by the Vermont Historical Society. They were wondering what they could do for us to help make us more visible and attractive. She will meet with them on Friday.
It was suggested by Kyle that they could add a link to our site to their web page.

There was a limited discussion about Greensboro’s lack of a war memorial of any kind.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 12:30 at the Greensboro Free Library.