

Present - Helen, Kathi, Ann, Alison, Mark, Rob Traver (guest speaker)

Minutes from 9/8/25 approved.

Treasurer report:

- September starting balance: \$46,043.18
- Deposits: \$2,326.07
- Expenses: \$6,282.55 (insurance renewal premium is in here - same company, slightly lower price)
- September ending balance: \$42,086.70
- Taking out funds set aside for new store roof - our working balance is \$27,086.70

Bret will start on a new roof in November, and it should take 2 weeks.

Store update:

- The generator is in place, every Monday it runs a self test. The store applied to Mascoma for a grant - they received \$3,000. The Historical society got back 1381.37 from their donation
- State registry plaque is up
- There was damage to the screen door - but has been fixed already.
- The store is doing ok. Not fully staffed yet - Thursday is the worst day. Sales are ok. Still need employees. Bret getting estimates for a rolled floor. Although Ann might try to see if they can piece together some things till then.
- The fundraiser Halloween party at His and Hers Farm is this weekend. The store would like funds for kitchen floor mats, interim shelving, new light fixture, painting, some new appliances. Would also like to have more of a cushion on the savings. Sales are down (perhaps over the summer due to road closure, and no Saturday suppers), but so are expenses. The pizza oven is not in use yet. Goal is to do more Saturday suppers next year. Need more volunteers (store board members) to help with these kinds of events, because employees are overtaxed. Ann is focused on right sales info - prices need to be consistent, correct price vs. what they paid for, and good point of sales system to keep track of stuff. The NBRC grant includes funds for a part-time marketing manager to keep on top of these kinds of things. Ann says employees and volunteers are talking more with patrons, and seeing that everyone is invested in the success of the store.

Once we get either the LCHIP or the NBRC grant, we would love to have people volunteer to do things (like someone has volunteered to do some painting on the front porch) because that counts as matching funds.

Thanks to Helen for doing 2 grant submissions!! Response dates Lchip Nov 11. Dec 10 from federal grant.

Capital campaign to start Nov. 17th.

Donations - photograph items to put on the website - and then display them at our events. Helen will get a toothpick holder that has a picture of the library on it, some letters also from the family of Benjamin Parker Chapman. These items were donated to the New Hampshire Historical Society that will pass them along to Acworth. We could use a glass cabinet to display items; there is one in the library. A display in the store would get more traffic. Perhaps we can find room for one when the store space is re-organized. Maybe someone could "build" a display for us.

Beehives (pre-Colonial dry-laid stone structures). Rob Traver has been talking with the landowner of the Beehives who would like to donate the 10-acre site to the town. Paul Fishman is the husband of Elizabeth Barry Whose grandfather, J. Griffeths Barry, owned the site from the 1970s on. Our zoning ordinance does not allow subdivisions on a Class VI road, but the planning board can make the exception. The value of the gift to the town could be as much as \$15,000. Survey cost estimate is \$5,000. It was suggested that the conservation Commission could put an application to the Acworth trust for the survey cost. Rob will follow up. Another idea is that there could be a warrant article for the town meeting in March to apply to the trust for money.

Events:

- Pat McCabe on January 11th at 2 pm. Alison will reach out to Charlotte.
- Randy Miller gave a talk in Alsteadon Colonial and Revolution era history and would like to do it for Acworth.
- Follow up with Rick when he comes back about a talk on New Zealand wildlife, maybe February or March.

ACP - AHS communication is going well because Ann comes to this meeting and gives pertinent updates

The meeting adjourned at 5:30.