

## ACWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May 11, 2026 4:30 PM, TOWN HALL

Present: Lindley Hanson, Rick Koester, Lorrie Ingoldsby, Liz Bascom, Kathi Bradt, Lillie LeBlanc, Alison Ferrell, Helen Frink, Lori Pimental, Mark Mulhearn, Claudia Istel, Ann Kosa, Marcie Maynard, Jim Neidert, Marianne Nevelson

**Minutes of April 13th, 2026** accepted

### **Treasurer's Report**

Starting April Balance - \$94,226.18    Rent, Donations and Interest - \$25,077.64    Oil and Plowing - \$1,277.47    Ending Balance -118,026.35

Line of Credit from Bank of Walpole - Vote to authorize Alison Ferrell to apply and sign on behalf of the Historical Society for a \$50K Line of Credit. Kathi motioned, Helen seconded, all in favor. Alison will reach out to the bank to finalize her authority.

We need to renew our subscription to Go Daddy for the website. Alison will take care of that.

### **Village Store**

New access road: Rick says the road is about complete. Question: how many driveways can one have on a lot? The Store sign needs to be moved from the old driveway. Lori will take down the sign from its current spot. Rick will finish the grading soon. Lori, Rick, Lorrie, and Rich will work out details. Jim Neidert asked about access for trucks pumping the septic tank and grease trap. Rick assured him there is ample room.

Garden Plot Discussion: Marcie stated several people have plots currently. The conservation commission pollinator plot has been laid out. Lori stated Master Gardener Dean Gowen is interested in laying out a plan for the garden, and in planting old varieties of trees. Dean can produce a plan for gardeners' and users' discussion but prefers not to attend AHS meetings. Lori mentioned applying for grants to support development. There are three separate areas within the property, and Dean will encompass all three. She also wants to be sensitive to abutters. Snowmobilers also need to be considered, and use of the trails for horse riding, and hiking. Marci wants to have the whole property considered at the meeting.

Rick brought up Bill and Cheryl Reeve, who donated a cornhole game, a popular game played in the back field. Who owns it? Ann and Lori opined the Historical Society should own the game. Ann also mentioned the picnic tables, owned by the historical society, can be used by all.

Brush pile: Marcie mentioned there are now two brush piles. Rick will speak with Bret and Fire Chief Gary Baber for a burn permit. Kathi would like it burned before the weather dries out, or wait until the late fall.

### **Grants and Fundraising**

- **NBRC** : EPA review not required! Use unspent \$5,000 for annex. Amendment request delays Notice to Proceed.
- RFP sent to Bret Lord, Bellows Construction, Blanc & Bailey, 2 historic preservation contractors: Steve Bedard (Gilmanton); Cob Hill (Concord) Blanc and Bailey are

interested, and will meet with Rich and Rick. People have until May 25th to respond. Ann and Lori mentioned the State Health and Human Services Officer needs to be involved in the process. Helen expressed our compliancy. The officer stated, "everything is trending upward". Good news, indeed.

- Funding requests pending: for larger addition with remaining funds to be used for apartment improvements. Claremont Savings Bank \$2,500, Hunt Foundation \$15,000, Von Weber Trust \$12,000
- Acworth Community Charitable Trust \$4,000 application: awarded \$1,000

### **Other Business**

"Monadnock Aerial History Project," update: Alison reserved a copy of Helen's book, These Acworth Hills, at the library for his research. His schedule is yet to be determined. Alison will email him.

### **Programming- Events**

Friday Night Supper: AHS will host a Church supper on July 24th. Claudia suggested a presentation on the upgrading of the store property. Store antiques could be displayed and photographs from AHS archives in the library. To be continued.

ACP: July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration: Ann stated the ACP is meeting after this meeting and will be in touch. Helen mentioned the Revolutionary War graves as being part of the commemoration and the scavenger hunt proposed by the state Historical Society. Lindley is a member of the DAR and will research Revolutionary soldiers' graves in town.

Sharon Spaulding, author: Women who made history: Helen is awaiting proposed dates for a talk on Mary Ware Dennett, an early proponent of birth control and women's rights. Kathi wondered about the community draw? Should we sponsor the event? Response was positive, consensus is yes.

**Publicity:** Community Newsletter: Helen has been keeping us in the public eye.

**Tickler List** from November minutes

- Collections Policy: What artifacts or documents, photos, diaries, letters should we accept? Where do we store things? Or exhibit them? Document provenance: where do things come from? What are we obligated to do with them?

Marianne mentioned Thursday, May 14th, times 11pm and 6pm, the Acworth schoolchildren will present a concert at the Town Hall.

Next meeting, Monday June 8 at 4pm  
Meeting adjourned 5:29 pm