

# **ACWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING**

**June 9, 2025**

**4:30 PM, Town Hall**

Attending: Kathi Bradt, Helen Frink, Ann Kosa, Lindley Hanson, Alison Ferrell, Liz Bascom, Lillie LeBlanc, Lori Ingoldsby, Rick Koester, Claudia Istel

Minutes of May 12, 2025: accepted as submitted, Kathi made the motion, Ann seconded.

## Treasurer's Report

May starting balance: \$32,229.10 Ending balance: \$46,874.66

Deposits were made up of rent, grant money and interest. Debits were building maintenance. Here I'd clarify that the balance includes \$7,000 for the store roof.

Kathi: Do we need an account for roof allocation? Alison will reflect this as part of the capital budget vs. operating budget.

Kathi: What is the status of the application to LCHIP? (Land and Community Heritage Investment Program). Helen explained it will be submitted by June 18<sup>th</sup>. The Northern Border Grant announces results in December and LCHIP before Thanksgiving.

Correspondence: Alison received Ciardelli notification for furnace cleaning, and Ron's Johns port-a-potty. Kathi suggested calling for a discount. Helen mentioned that this expenditure should have been voted on. Lindley suggested contacting Best Septic. Lindley will follow up on this.

## Conflict of Interest Policy discussion

Helen: Did people read this? Ann: what would we be using this for? Helen explained that some of the grants require us to have a policy. Basically the policy outlines procedures for disclosing and managing situations where a person's personal interests may conflict with the organization's interests. We need to be honest and up front. This is for elected board officers only to sign off on the policy. Documentation to be signed at next meeting, and filed with the Secretary of State's office.

## Bylaws: terms of office: 2 or 3 years?

Bylaws need to be changed to three years. Helen made the motion, Kathi seconded. All in favor.

Strategic Plan draft from 2013. Helen said it had to do with the Store, archives, and formerly the Grange Hall. The Kosas bought the Grange, so we were able to

pay off the mortgage for the store. An updated Strategic Plan should include financial goals, including a budget for stewardship (maintenance) and capital improvements. A maintenance plan is required for the LCHIP application.

Costs of the store to the Historical Society - 2024 Expenses \$25,379: Rent Income \$11,700. A goal of our Strategic Plan could be to generate enough income so that we don't depend entirely on donations to maintain the store. Alison: Keeping the store going is more important than being a landlord. Maybe not emphasize us being landlords; our main focus is keeping the store going. Helen would like to set up an emergency fund. Also, a discussion about the Community Aid Building and the Church in the Valley ought to be included in the Strategic Plan.

Kathi: Does anyone know what is happening with the two buildings? She and Helen are on a committee to study the situation, but it hasn't yet met. People are encouraged to suggest ideas. We will revisit this in the fall. Perhaps add a Tickler List to the agenda.

Ann reports the store is making a slight profit, starting in March of 2025. She would like to have more events to raise money. Next year, she would like to construct a gazebo in back of the store. She believes this would improve the area. The store owns four acres.

Lindley asked about camping on the land in order to monetize the land.

Lori: Why not charge for camping to benefit the store?

Ann: We cannot disturb the river's edge.

Kathi remembered the rental of garden plots, eventually giving the responsibility to the gardeners. Ann said we need a committee to study this. Helen said these are terrific ideas for the Strategic Plan.

Village Store roof - we have \$7,000 in hand; the remaining \$3,000 from the 1772 Foundation grant will be paid when work is finished. We received \$4,000 from the Acworth Trust, \$2,000 in earmarked donations, and the remaining \$4,090 will come from our balance. Work can start when Bret Lord is ready.

Publicity should go into:

Monadnock Shopper News, Keene Sentinel, The Valley News, The Union Leader (weekend edition), Soo Nipi Magazine

Rick asked what is the next project after the roof? Helen said we need to wait for grant money before we can plan. Ann mentioned the generator and the pizza oven, the Acworth Community Charitable Trust ([www.acworthtrust.org](http://www.acworthtrust.org)) will pay for the oven. She mentioned the store has an industrial microwave but the

electrical system needs to be updated for both the microwave and the generator. Ann is hoping Mascoma Bank comes through with their donation so the store will not be too dependent on the Historical Society to pay for the generator. Should we have one large propane tank or more than one? Rick: What about two furnaces for propane? Helen asked him to send specifics for purposes relating to applying for grants.

### Events:

The Acworth Trust Car show planned for July 12th is not happening.

July 18 church supper: What publicity can we do? Liz explained the process. People bring dishes to share, and the church will provide publicity. Alison will create a flier with photos, and information about us. Helen volunteered to provide a program about maps in Acworth. Lindley will bring rock samples of minerals mined in Acworth. We will have Town History books for sale. The store will bring tee shirts, etc. to sell.

Lindley's Presentation: Ancient Volcanoes, Deep Sea Sediment, and Exotic Terrains; The Geology of South Acworth is Sunday, August 17th, at the Town Hall. Time: 4 PM

Next meeting Monday, July 14th

Meeting adjourned: 5:49 pm