

Canterbury Historical Society

Minutes – July 15, 2025

Elkins Memorial Building

Trustees Present: Bill Adams, Fred Brewster, Pam Jackson, Mary Kerwin, Jeff Leidinger, Sam Papps, Sandy Scripture, David Tirrell-Wysocki, Mary Ann Winograd. Also present: Naomi Scanlon, Alan Stone, Jacob Murch.

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by CHS President Fred Brewster.

1. Minutes of June meeting approved as submitted and placed on file.

2. **Treasurer's Report:**

Mary Ann Winograd presented the June 2025 report. **It is attached.** As of June 30, total assets, including checking account and cash donations: \$7607.33.

Mary noted that the Tricentennial Committee account will involve online banking. There was no objection from the trustees.

3. **President's Report:**

- **Archive Donation** - Fred noted, with info from Sam Papps, that the Beck family is donating a 1928 auction poster to CHS.
- **Grant opportunities** - After contact with the NH Charitable Foundation, Fred reported that the necessary paperwork is completed to permit CHS to apply for grants.
- **Poetry Contest** - Following the CES Tricentennial Badge design program, Fred reported that Selectman Scott Doherty will coordinate a CES Canterbury Poetry Contest.
- **Photo project** - Canterbury photographer Paul Lepesqueur has agreed to take photos of town committees and organizations. Timeline and logistics TBD.
- **Fundraising** - Fred reported that he will reach out to specific individuals in town by phone or letter in a CHS fundraising campaign, with a goal of raising \$20,000. The Tricentennial Committee plans a similar effort. Fred and Naomi will consult to ensure that individuals are not included on both lists.
- **Harry Kinter** – Fred read a letter in which long-time CHS Trustee Harry Kinter wrote that he reluctantly must resign for health reasons. Harry wrote that he will continue his work on the CHS old house book project.

- **Shaker Memories** - Fred relayed that work already has begun for compiling stories about Canterbury residents' experiences with the Shakers, hopefully to be organized in a "I Knew the Shakers" book/pamphlet as a Tricentennial fundraiser. He met with Shaker Village Executive Director Erin Hammerstedt, who said she is very interested in the recent history of the Shakers. She reported that the Village has begun a similar project, interviewing people for stories to be added to the Village archives. Fred will meet with Erin; Shirley Wajda, the Village's curator of research & collections; and Renee Fox, its collections manager, to discuss the projects and help determine if a CHS project in addition to the Village project is feasible. Dave Tirrell-Wysocki reported that Darryl Thompson, who has had a lifetime relationship with the Canterbury Shakers, shared detailed remembrances he has written as a potential introduction to a CHS publication. Dave divided the draft intro into multiple parts that can be used as a general introduction and as introductions to various chapters covering a range of topics involving the Shakers and Canterbury residents who interacted with them. Dave suggested that if the project moves forward, Trustees develop a structure including specifying where remembrances will come from, who will solicit them and a timeline. He volunteered to coordinate, edit and help assemble the final product.

4. Programs and Committees:

Programs Committee – no report

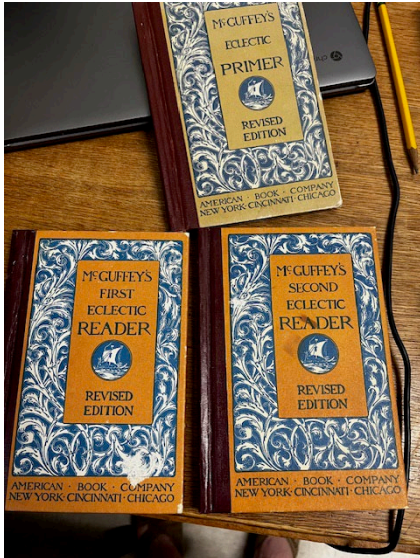
Exhibits Committee – Mary Ann and Mary Kerwin reported that the committee is putting the finishing touches on the Canterbury Boarders exhibit, which will debut on Fair Day.

Sign committee – No report.

Old House Book Committee – No report.

Oral History Committee – No report. Project is on hold.

One-room Schoolhouse – Mary Ann relayed that Karen Gingrich, who coordinates the program for the school district, is collecting McGuffey Readers -- vintage reading textbooks that she hopes to incorporate in the one-room schoolhouse program. School district staff members are helping with her search. She asked if CHS also could alert its members and townspeople to keep an eye out for the readers, perhaps at yard or estate sales.



Maintenance Committee – Jeff Leiding reported that he and Geoff Hubbell have renovated the outside columns at the CHS building. Pam Jackson and Jeff will spruce up the interior in time for Fair Day. Jeff also will vacuum the one-room schoolhouse for Fair Day visitors.

Cellar Holes Committee – Bill Adams reported he has been writing and Alan Stone posting monthly reports. Bill suggested the Trustees develop a procedure for submitting material to Alan for posting on the website. He proposed the Trustees follow Robert's Rules of Order (a widely used manual of parliamentary procedure guidelines) to manage meetings.

ACTION: By unanimous vote, Trustees approved following Robert's Rules of Order at its meetings.

Website Development Committee – Alan Stone reported that in the first month since the new website went live, he has not heard or seen of any problems. Sam noted that the vast collection of digitized Luther Cote photos had not yet been added to the site. Alan will make it a priority to add them and their accompanying text. Naomi Scanlon noted that her Clough Tavern property is misnamed. There also was discussion about the Feature Story of the Month, which was instituted with the new site. Dave reported that the first story, about Bunker Hill hero George Shannon, was posted when the site went live in mid-June. It will remain in the feature spot

through the end of July. The second feature, to be posted on August 1, will highlight the work of the Tricentennial Committee, followed on September 1 by a story provided by Sam about the Summer Boarders project. Dave outlined a tentative list of future feature stories and asked that Trustees develop a process for soliciting and submitting stories.

ACTION: By unanimous vote, the Trustees agreed that members will bring ideas for feature articles to the September meeting, decide on a tentative list and schedule for future stories and who should write or secure them.

Tricentennial Committee – Naomi reported that Rene Brooks is now the committee’s secretary, with the resignation of Beth Blair. The committee has completed a commemorative license plate, which will be offered for presale at the Fair. Organizationally, the committee is dividing its work into subcommittees, with a detailed chart of projects, responsibilities, timeline, funding, etc.

Other Tricentennial activities: Artist Carol Lake has presented drawings for a commemorative medal. Mark Stevens is working on a time capsule, and seeking ideas from CHS . He also is working on a “300 trees for 300 years” project. The new bank account is active and Treasurer Erin Meagher is formalizing the budget. The committee is discussing liability insurance for its events. Rene is working to involve students in designing a logo and in the Tricentennial in general. She said art, music and history teachers are interested in adding the Tricentennial to their curriculum. The committee continues to discuss a lasting Tricentennial memorial. TBD.

5. Other Business:

ACTION: By unanimous vote, Trustees appointed Alan Stone to fill the remainder of Harry Kinter’s term.

Following the tradition of not meeting in August, the next meeting will be on Sept. 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13.

Respectfully submitted,

David Tirrell-Wysocki

Recording Secretary