

**GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 3, 2015**

LOCATION: Georgia Municipal Building

PRESENT: Kim Asch, Laurie Broe, Olive Gilmond, Dee McGrath, Ginger Phelps, Cindy Ploof, Sara Vester, Don Vickers

ABSENT: Ed Brehaut, Colin Conger, David Juairé

Don Vickers called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: After two corrections, a motion to approve the Minutes of the **May 3, 2015** Meeting was made by Kim; seconded by Laurie - *motion carried and approved*. Also, it was agreed that, after approval, the Meeting Minutes may now be posted on the Georgia Historical Society's Web Page.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dee – passed around some of the correspondence received. One of the correspondences she read was a “Thank You” note from the Richard Palmer family for our condolences and the donation to the Georgia Fire & Rescue Association that we made in the Palmer family's name.

Don also received a notification from the Swanton Historical Society as it is hosting a tour of the “Kent-DeLord Museum” in Plattsburgh, NY, and another at the “1812 War Museum”- both on **Wed., June 17, 2015**. Anyone interest in attending this should call the Swanton Historical Society at 1-802-868-5436 or 868-3567 to make a reservation or for more information. The cost of the tour is \$18.00.

Additionally, Dee passed around the *Vermont Life Magazine* (Summer Issue) with an article written by our own Kim Asch called, “Vermont by Design”, for all to see.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Laurie – stated that the balance of the Checking Account as of April, 30, 2015, is **\$1,830.35**. Also, a notification from the Vermont Federal Credit Union has come to alert the GHS that a decision must be made regarding our CD as it will mature on June 18th. It was decided, through a vote, to give the CD another year when the Board will review the status of the CD again. Motion to review the CD after 12 months was made by Kim and seconded by Ginger- *motion carried and approved*.

Also in the correspondence was a request for a donation toward the “Save the Stories” project that the Vermont Historical Society is gathering for their collection. Motion was made by Kim and seconded by Olive to donate \$50.00 to the VHS for this effort - *motion carried and approved*.

JUNE PROGRAM: Sara – stated that the “Coming of the Railroad to Georgia” Program is all set to go. Dee made up a flier which will be sent out to all of the GHS membership and placed on our Web Site. Ginger will mail these fliers out this week.

JULY PROGRAM PLAN: Sara – said that she has heard nothing from the Vermont Humanities Council presenter, Linda Radtke, regarding a contract that needs to be signed before her program, “Vermont History Brought to Life” presentation in July. Sara is going to call her and send her a copy of the form to be signed.

AUGUST PROGRAM PLAN: Discussion took place on the question of what type of presentation might be a good educational program to be done by the Board. It was decided that instead of a physical

tour, the Board members could provide a *virtual* tour with research done on Georgia schools from the past. This would require that we provide the history of the school, some old photos of the school as it existed then, and, perhaps, a photo of the school or structure that is *currently* at that location (or of the site where it once stood if nothing is on the land). More discussion and planning will take place at the **July meeting** with a selection of a school choice to be made and researched by each Board member for the program. The production will take place at the Georgia Public Library in August – the exact date, as yet, to be decided.

BRICK SCHOOL MUSEUM: Sara – Reminded everyone that we have **clean-up work on Thurs., June 25th at 6:00 p.m.** and a cleaning project at the **Municipal Building on Tues., June 30th at 6:00 p.m.**

The need for window repair at the Museum was again discussed. Don spoke to Mike McCarthy about them, again, and got some ideas regarding the use of a grant. Mike will help Don with this.

A schedule form was passed around for members to choose when they could schedule coverage of the Museum once it is opened.

CEMETERIES: Ed – Tabled due to Ed’s absence

GORDON'S MILL: Colin – Tabled due to Colin’s absence. One note from Don is that help from the Court Diversion Program is being looked into. However, if we are unable to get that, we will be required to do the work of cleaning ourselves.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING GARDENS: Laurie – said that Rose McDevitt brought her daycare children to the Town Hall to help with the gardening. The job was wonderfully accomplished and it looks just great!

COLLECTIONS/LIBRARY: Dee – stated that she has done a few assessments but nothing more, lately. She passed around the wonderful postcards and “Invitation to Attend the Dedication of the Stannard Monument” card that Cindy purchased on e-Bay for the GHS. Huge thanks to Cindy for catching that one! These are displayed on our Web Site. And Cindy also purchased a small white ceramic pitcher with the drawing of the Brick School House on the front of it; it was placed on e-Bay by a man from Richmond, VT. Written in pen (it is believed) are the dates, “**1891**”, the year of the Brick School’s completion, and “**1975**”. It is speculated that its significance might have been to honor the start and founding of the Georgia Historical Society, March 14, 1975. Again, thanks, Cindy!

Don donated a book entitled, “Vermont’s Elusive Architect” by George H. Guernsey. A really wonderful volume with superb photographs of beautiful and intricately designed structures throughout Vermont, designed by Guernsey, himself. *Thanks goes out to Don for giving the GHS this magnificent treasure of a book, which will be placed in the Georgia Library in the History Section after assessment.*

MEMBERSHIP: Ginger/Dee – All the past members from 2014 have renewed their memberships for this year (2015).

GENEALOGY: Ginger – stated that she had a request from a Richard Weeks who was trying to find the parents of his great grandfather, Amory, who was in Georgia for the 1840 and 1850 census. There were few records beyond the fact that the couple had two boys buried in Hyde Cemetery. They are coming to the area next week and want to see where the family lived.

She was able to get the wife's maiden name, which was Sawyer, and some information from the files in the library. No photos, but she did find a land record book at the town office where property was sold. She e-mailed him copies of Sawyer information and told him about the land records. Also she found something on the Internet that might be a clue. He seemed please with what she found.

The other request came to her last night (June 2nd), from Cindy. It was sent to the new Web Page. A lady in Essex Junction wants information regarding the Cushman and Wood families. She heard about diaries so Ginger checked on her way home and there is a Cushman one there. A quick check this morning (June 3rd) shows a relationship to Ginger's husband through the Wood family. She will contact her.

NEWS & VIEWS: Olive said she's continuing her work on this project. She passed around her latest album, and, as always, she's so very thorough and meticulous in getting all she can in relation to Georgia and its goings on.

BURLINGTON FREE PRESS FEATURE ON GEORGIA: Kim – corresponded with editor, Dennis Redmond at the *Burlington Free Press* about submitting a history column from the Georgia Historical Society; a subject will be decided, later. Kim stated that July 27th is the deadline for getting an article in and it would probably appear in an August issue sometime. She plans on starting her research of possible ideas and report on the focus of the piece at the next meeting.

OTHER:

- **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** – The Award will be presented at the Program on June 16th.
- **Cindy spoke to our Board Member, Edmund Wilcox** who is at the Green Mountain Habilitation Center, Room No. 1018. He was able to converse with her pretty well. All agreed that it would be nice to send him a “Get Well” card and a fruit basket of some sort on our behalf, to let him know our thoughts and prayers are with him. Cindy will carry this out. Individual cards, visits, and/or calls are highly encouraged.

To contact Edmund by phone, his room phone number at the Center is: 847-9508.

- **Don, again, reiterated that we need to get more members to join the Board to help us with all the work that the GHS requires in order to be successful in its mission toward the preservation, collection, and educating all regarding Georgia's great history.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee McGrath

Dee McGrath, Secretary