

Minutes of the Hyde Park Historical Society meeting, April 7, 2011,

The minutes from the meeting of October 19, 2010 were passed out, read and accepted with one correction, the spelling of the word, crowd.

The Treasurer reported that we have \$1445.41 in our account.

We have been approached by Marguerite Stewart about the possible sale of her property, the old "Valley House", next to the Grange Hall. Her land runs up to the eave line next to the hall. The ownership of this property would be a big asset to the town, making the Grange Hall much more accessible and useful. It would provide parking for activities at the Grange Hall as well as a secure building for the storage of Historical Society papers and items. It could be used as a museum, and education facility. We could arrange to bring school classes to the facility periodically for hands on history lessons, teaching the students about the rich Hyde Park History, involving the lumber and logging industry, carriage building, farming and many other interesting historical facts and figures.

Maggie gave us a reduced price. She is asking \$149,000 and is willing to sell it to the town for \$129,000. We would like to raise the bulk of the money privately but, we may need some help from the town. Robert Jones and Harold Bailey will start researching the fund raising right off. Maggie needs to move this property as soon as possible.

The results from town meeting were somewhat disappointing. We had outlined the 2011 projects and with no one at town meeting who knew or understood what was going on, the town voted down our funding for this year.

We need to ask the Select Board for an addendum to their policy on using the Grange Hall. We would like to have a policy similar to the one used by the Recreation Committee, the Library and the Fire Department, that would allow us to establish our own rules for the use of the building. We have forfeited a number of opportunities to rent the facility for weddings etc. because we can't allow the use of alcohol, under the current orders and we would like to try to resolve this. The feeling was prevalent that a certificate of insurance from a renter stating that they had coverage for alcohol use would suffice.

Old Timers night has a tentative date of /Sunday, September 11, 2011. We will wait for John Nutting to contact us upon his return from Florida in May to finalize this.

We received a gift from Jack and Sharon Anderson of Silverware that had been used in the old hotel in Hyde Park Village, the Hotel Phoenix. Jack's father owned and operated this business in years past.

Carolyn is contacting Linda Radtke. She dresses in period garb and sings historic songs from the time in which she is representing. She charges \$25, we voted in favor of contracting her for the charged amount. We feel that this would be an opportunity to attract some of the town folks to see the hall and all that we have done, and an opportunity to recruit new member. We have determined that either the 29th of July or the 19th of August would be best. Carolyn is making the contact.

Our next meeting will be at the Bailey's at 104 Eden St. Hyde Park, on May 12, 2011 at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Harold L. Bailey, Secretary