

Greater Dover Historical Society  
July 21, 2011

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:02 p.m. at the log house in Dover Township. Members present were the following: Lori & Jeff Koch, Madelyn & Harry Shermeyer, Randy & Judy Worley, Chris & Bill Coleman, Jo Ott, Lois Slothower, Don Gross, Melanie Green, Zita Smith, Mel Miller, Kay Stitley, Cindy Snyder, and Carol Leathery. The members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Shermeyer presented the June 2011 minutes for approval and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. There are two corrections: page 2, remove "wife", and page 3, change to "wheel". A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Harry Shermeyer and seconded by Jo Ott. All voted in favor and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for June 2011 was presented by Bill Coleman:

Balance as of June 1, 2011	\$15,668.37
Deposits for June	187.64
Expenses for June	450.13
Balance as of June 30, 2011	\$15,405.88

There was a motion by Cindy Snyder to approve the treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Jeff Koch. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Assistant Archivist report – Mel Miller reported he has photos of the Heilman House, which was torn down, to place into the archives. The photos were donated by Donald Myers, a family descendent.

Historian report – President Shermeyer stated she will give Cindy Snyder copies of the photos she took during the dismantling of the carousel building at Brookside Park to be placed into this Historian's record book.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Landscaping Committee – Judy Worley reported on behalf of Lucia Hrinyak that Committee members (Lucia, Judy, Randy) met on July 18 at the storage shed garden to attend to weeding, pruning and trimming. Thanks to Randy Worley for keeping an attentive eye on the gardens.

Board of Directors – Jeff Koch reported a proposal from Eli Nikkanen, our in-house blacksmith, concerning the GDHS sending a patron request to Graham Engineering Corporation. Eli is an employee of Graham and had stated that Graham's Board of Directors accepts requests for donations at their quarterly meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2011 and Jeff reported the GDHS Board members agreed to submit a letter. The letter can be sent to Eli via email and he will forward to the proper individual(s) at Graham for their consideration. The secretary has the information provided by President Shermeyer for the letter and will send the letter to Eli via email.

Adopt-a-Highway – Melanie Green reported the litter pick-up planned for Saturday, July 23 is being postponed until August 27 since there were only 4 members who volunteered to help.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Blacksmith Shop open house – Randy Worley reported that Don Gross helped at the July open house and there were approximately 12 visitors. Eli N. made new signage for several display items. President Shermeyer asked Randy Worley when the bellows will be removed from the BSS. Randy reported that Eli is doing a fine job and we still need a volunteer host for the August 13 open house. Cindy Snyder stated she will check on calendar for the August date. Randy Worley reported that Ted had a Boy Scout manual for merit badges on blacksmithing and Randy will follow-up on this issue for future reference. Jeff Koch suggested one of our open house signs should be posted on W. Canal Street near Cranbrook & Edgeway Avenue so people who are not traveling on Route 74 see it too. Currently there are 2 signs posted on N. Main Street (facing north and south) and one at the BSS on the open house dates.

#### NEW BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reported that Tom Miles has started his duties as webmaster for the GDHS. The GDHS has given Tom a complimentary membership since he graciously volunteered to be the webmaster. President Shermeyer reported that Tom suggested the GDHS create an on-line museum on the website since we do not have a stone and mortar building to display our archives. All members present felt this was a good idea to implement. The secretary will work on the fundraiser order form for the website and forward to Tom Miles for his input and posting.

President Shermeyer stated Jo Ott has suggested we scan all our paper archives onto a disc or CD. Jo said she has a wireless scanner and laptop she can use to scan the archives to a flash drive or CD. President Shermeyer has made arrangements with the Township Manager to set up our equipment to on tables in the storage room; plans were made to begin the project in the next few weeks. It was highly recommended a back-up disc be made of the scanned archives. This will be a long-term project since our current archives in the Township Building contains over 90% paper donations, i.e., newspaper clippings, etc. It was discussed that these paper archives could be stored in airtight bins and moved to the storage shed at the BSS once the scanning project is completed and this will open up storage shelf space in the Township Building for other donated items. Gayle Heagy has kept accurate records of all the archives, numbered and categorized accordingly. Melanie Green suggested once the scanning project is complete, there could be a presentation at one of our meetings to view the items on the disc.

Annual member picnic – September 15, Brookside Park Bldg #2, 5:30pm – President Shermeyer suggested the membership consider renting a hot dog machine from Spangler's ACE Hardware store for the picnic. Final menu plans and other assignments for the picnic will be made at our August meeting.

President Shermeyer reminded members that our August meeting will begin at 6:30pm with the presentation from the Office of Attorney General and our regular business meeting will follow. Flyers have been posted at local businesses, banks and some churches. President Shermeyer is speaking to the Weiglestown Lioness Club and will share information on this presentation with this group.

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Lois Slothower suggested the GDHS make available an audio tape of the annual Historic Walk by Vice President Stitley so members and visitors who ride along in vehicles can hear Kay's presentation. Lois said her in-laws enjoyed the historic walk but could not hear the presentation from inside the van. The members discussed preparing an audio tape similar to the system used at for the Gettysburg Battlefield tour. Vice President Stitley reported that approximately 29 people attended the walk this year, and it was posted in the Calvary Church bulletin. Lois Slothower's mother-in-law, Velma, gave an interesting talk on the tour at Dr. English's property since she lived next door when it was home to Anna, the local telephone operator.

Judy Worley reported the presentation on old mills at the WMHS meeting was very interesting and the GDHS should keep these gentlemen in mind to speak at our meeting. She has their business cards for future reference.

Randy Worley stated that Pop Wire, John Wire's father, just turned 97 and he invited Randy to stop by so he can share his war experiences. Perhaps he can video tape this interview.

Harry Shermeyer suggested members arrive early at 6pm for our August meeting to help set up chairs for the guest speaker presentation. We should post notice in the newspaper a couple weeks before our meeting and Jo Ott offered to contact Joan Concilio to have this meeting advertised. It is posted on the GDHS website under the Events link. Vice President Stitley said she will make sure President Shermeyer has the church key since she and Zita will not be here for the August meeting.

President Shermeyer reported that she received a phone call from Mr. Mike March who is looking for an old Dover Borough map showing lots #22 and #23. Gayle Heagy has a map used by the Landmark Committee; President Shermeyer asked Gayle to check the map and will contact Mr. March with the information.

Vice President Stitley reported that she and Zita have been looking through boxes of old photos from the Leader inaugural ball; they are still looking for inaugural parade photos showing the Dover Band and the inauguration invitation. While going through the boxes, Zita found a shoe button hook from Darron's of Dover. Vice President Stitley said they plan to place the hook in the display at the Dover Fair. They also found photos of the empty lot where the Dover Borough Fire Hall now sits; it was built in 1952. Randy Worley reported that a neighbor of Lucia Hrinjak's has a movie of the last trolley going through Dover. It was discussed that the GDHS needs to do more video interviews with our older residents and follow-up on the current status/location of interviews that have been completed.

There being no further questions or suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch  
GDHS secretary