

Greater Dover Historical Society  
May 19, 2011

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:01 p.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church. Members present were the following: Lori Koch, Madelyn & Harry Shermeyer, Randy & Judy Worley, Kay Stitley, Jo Ott, Lois Slothower, Bill & Chris Coleman, Melanie Green, Jeff Koch, James Geiselman, Mel Miller, Don & Donna Gross, Walter Crider and Zita Smith. The members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Shermeyer stated the April 2011 minutes are not in print for adoption tonight. Secretary Lori Koch reported there was a computer glitch and she will have the minutes ready for adoption at the June meeting.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for April 2011 was presented by Bill Coleman. There was a motion by Chris Coleman to approve the treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Jo Ott. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Assistant Archivist report – no report due to Gayle Heagy's recent hospitalization.

Historian report – no report

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-a-Highway – Melanie Green was absent. Lori Koch reported that 3 volunteers performed the litter pickup on April 16 but she did not know exactly how many bags were collected.

Landscaping Committee – Randy Worley reported everything is looking very good.

Board of Directors – Jeff Koch reported that Ted Ziegler will no longer be our blacksmith and Larry Law has quit as the helper. Ted removed all of his tools from the blacksmith shop and returned his key. Eli Nikkanen, a GDHS member, has volunteered to help at the open houses as our blacksmith and will be at the June open house. Eli had assisted Ted on several occasions, is very knowledgeable and has been studying blacksmithing for over 17 years and does have some of his own blacksmithing tools. President Shermeyer asked if the bellows was still in the BSS and inquired if Ted made arrangements to have it removed and taken to Dillsburg. Randy Worley suggested the cook stove should be moved out of the BSS so there is more room for visitors. President Shermeyer stated the cook stove had to be repaired after it was moved before so it will have to remain there. Harry Shermeyer asked if the new blacksmith will be making items and it was reported there are a few partially-made items in the BSS. There are 3 pieces of 15" bar stock in the BSS that can be used to make items, if Eli can use it. Lois Slothower did report

the bar stock which Wayne Slothower purchased and donated to the GDHS is in the BSS ready for use. Lois will submit the receipt to the Treasurer to record as a donation.

OLD BUSINESS -- none

NEW BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reported the speaker for our June meeting will be Dover Township's Deputy Fire Chief Glenn Jensen who will give a presentation on home fire safety. The guest speaker for our August 18 meeting will be a representative from the Attorney General's Office who will give a presentation on scams and frauds. This meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. President Shermeyer stated this meeting will be advertised in the newspaper, as well as flyers will be distributed to our local businesses, and posting on the GDHS & municipal websites and newsletters. President Shermeyer reported she received an email from Scott Mingus who offered to make a presentation on the Civil War and October was suggested.

President Shermeyer reported on a thank-you email she received from Erin Davis of Englewood, Florida. She was doing some genealogy research for her local Oak Forest Homeowners Association and found the GDHS website very helpful with her research.

Lowe's account – President Shermeyer reported the GDHS has a business account open at Lowe's and they are requesting updated information. It was discussed whether we wanted to keep the account open and the decision was made to close it; President Shermeyer will contact Lowe's to close out the account.

Staple's account – President Shermeyer stated we have a credit account open at Staples. It was discussed whether anyone uses it or who is authorized to use it. Bill Coleman reported he gets statements from Staples occasionally stating there is no balance due and the credit card is signed by Bob Merkert. It was agreed to close out this account and Bill Coleman will contact Staples to close out the account.

President Shermeyer reported that Randy Worley has a fence for the BSS and Harry Shermeyer made a base to sit the fence on. It will be set up for the June open house. The Worley's and Jeff Koch will cover the June open house. Volunteers are still needed for the August 18 and October 8 open houses.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Vice President Stitley asked if Eli will have the Blacksmith Shop open during the historical walk on June 21. It was decided that it was not necessary to have the forge operating on that date, but the BSS will be open before and after the walk for refreshments.

Jeff Koch questioned if Eli does not make items for the BSS similar to what Ted made, will the GDHS still need 2 spaces for the Dover carnival. It was discussed and agreed that 2 spaces will

be necessary to display all the books, photos and display cases we have each year – and especially this year we will have the Bloodroot books for sale. Only 1 display copy of the Bloodroot book will be on the table for people to look at.

Judy Worley stated someone had asked her if the Township and Borough planned to do anything with the Civil War anniversary celebration this year since there are historical references on Dover in the record books. President Shermeyer said she will contact Don Keener since he sits on the Civil War Roundtable. Scott Mingus and Jim McClure wrote a book on the Civil War in York County.

Jo Ott reported the meeting at the York Heritage Trust relating the Civil War anniversary rather fell apart and they hope to reconvene the meetings in July. Jo asked if the GDHS archives contained any items related to the Civil War which we could display at the BSS. President Shermeyer stated she will contact Gayle Heagy to discuss it.

Walter Crider reported he has a family book with entries dating back to 1815 which he would like someone to look at to determine if it is archival material.

There being no further questions or suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch  
GDHS secretary