

Greater Dover Historical Society
July 18, 2013

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:02 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church in Dover. Members present were the following: Lori Koch, Randy & Judy Worley, Bill & Chris Coleman, Shirley Weaver, Kay Stitley, Grace Trimmer, Norma Botterbusch, Zita Smith, Madelyn & Harry Shermeyer, Cindy Snyder, Carol Leathery, Donald & Donna Gross, and Lois Slothower; one guest was present. Due to the fact a flag was not available, the Pledge of Allegiance was dispensed and members stood for a moment of silence in honor of those serving in harm's way.

President Shermeyer presented the June 2013 minutes for approval and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Kay Stitley and seconded by Cindy Snyder. All voted in favor and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for June 2013 was presented by Bill Coleman. There was a motion by Judy Worley to approve the treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Chris Coleman. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Archivist report – Judy Worley reported she picked up the blanket chest and other items which Gayle requested be donated to the GDHS. Judy stated there is a grinding stone with foot pedals “donated on loan” to the GDHS for use in the Blacksmith Shop. The stone belongs to Mr. Bill Lawyer, the Sunday School superintendent at the Worley's church and it is approximately 70-75 years old. Judy reported the two uniforms hanging on the coat rack were donated by Joan Smith-Seyfert and her family – a Dover community band uniform and a Dover community baseball team uniform. These uniforms are from the estate of Zelma Smith.

Historian report – no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-a-Highway – Lori Koch reported a litter pickup was held on Saturday, July 13 with 4 volunteers collecting 10 bags of trash. Additional volunteers are always welcome to participate.

Landscaping – no report

Board of Directors – Cindy Snyder introduced a guest at the meeting, Patricia Crider, who has created a Facebook page entitled, “You Know You're From Dover When”. Cindy reported the following issues from the Board meeting last month: 1) the Board has agreed to reuse the extra membership badges by placing new “date stickers” on them. A motion to approve this was made by President Shermeyer and seconded by Judy Worley. All members voted in favor and motion passed. 2) The Board is seeking approval to utilize postage funds to mail out membership forms and newsletters in an effort to attract member attendance at meetings and increase involvement in the GDHS. A motion was made by Judy Worley and seconded by Cindy Snyder to mail out newsletters and membership forms for one year to all members who have memberships since 2012, regardless if they paid dues. The members discussed at length several options for distributing the newsletter and 2014 membership renewal forms. It was agreed to mail hard copies of said documents to all members who do not have emails. The secretary will continue to distribute said

documents electronically to members who have current emails on file. All members agreed and motion passed. 3) The Board is suggesting that the GDHS keep a central inventory of all items “owned” by the Society. A motion was made by President Shermeyer and seconded by Randy Worley. All members agreed and motion passed. 4) President Shermeyer inquired about the Stouch diaries and Cindy Snyder reported the Board has not made a final decision on what to do with them and may discuss the issue at their next board meeting. Lori Koch made a motion to return the Stouch diaries to Jay Stouch and seconded by Cindy Snyder. All members agreed and motion passed. Judy Worley stated she found a signed paper dated 7/17/07 in Gayle’s records stating the diaries would be returned to the GDHS upon the death of Jay Stouch. 5) The Board would like to develop a survey to mail out to members with the newsletter or membership forms to ask what type of programs members would be interested in. 6) Cindy reported that Randy Worley had presented a request for a welder’s apron for Eli to use in the Blacksmith Shop. The board discussed it briefly; Vice President Stitley may have one she can donate and will check on it. 7) Treasurer Bill Coleman made a request to reuse the membership numbers of deceased members. The Board discussed the issue and did not feel it was a good idea. A motion was made by Norma Botterbusch that membership numbers of deceased members will not be used again and seconded by Randy Worley. All members agreed and motion passed. 8) The Board discussed revising job descriptions for office of President, etc. Extra copies are on the table. 9) Archives – Cindy Snyder stated since the outcome of the supervisor’s election is unknown at this time, she spoke to the Township Manager, Laurel Oswalt, who advised her that the GDHS archives can remain in the Township building. President Shermeyer stated yes the archives can stay in the Township building as long as she remains as the assistant archivist, per her conversation with Laurel this morning. Otherwise, the archives must move to another location. 10) The Board discussed inviting our webmaster, Tom Miles, to attend a meeting to present an update of our website. President Shermeyer stated that she will remain as liaison to the webmaster, reported updates have been posted to the website and incorrect items have been removed. The Blood Root books need to be added to “Our Store” link. 11) The Board discussed the Landmark Committee chairmanship, which is open since the passing of Gayle Heagy. President Shermeyer stated she asked Lucia Hrinjak to chair the committee but Judy Worley stated that Lucia has declined to accept the chair; this will have to be confirmed with Lucia. 12) The Board discussed a theme for the Dover Carnival display stand but no decision was made. 13) Speaker list – the Board will continue to review the list and prepare a calendar for the January newsletter.

Landmark Committee – no report

Blacksmith Shop – Randy Worley reported that the July open house had 10 visitors and a few items were sold. Randy reported there were 17 visitors to the BSS for the July 14th Sundaes in the Park event and several items were sold. A new member, Fred Shaffer from Spring Grove, filled in for Eli at the BSS for these events and will continue to assist Eli for the open house events. Randy reported there were approximately 70-75 visitors at the BSS during the Civil War remembrance event on June 29th. Congratulatory letters were received from Representative Seth Grove and Dover Borough to acknowledge the accomplishments and presentations held at the BSS. President Shermeyer asked if the motion sensor light at the Blacksmith Shop was installed. Randy reported it was not and someone will be in contact with Bob Snelbecker to complete the work.

OLD BUSINESS

Guest speaker list was discussed under the Board of Director’s report.

National Night Out – August 6th – President Shermeyer asked what items the GDHS will hand out at the

event. Vice President Stitley reported that the bears we had last year are sold out and all that is available at this time for kids are “slap bracelets”. We need volunteers to work at the GDHS display table. Randy Worley suggested we hold a drawing for a Blacksmith Shop replica. A motion was made by Harry Shermeyer and seconded by Lois Slothower. All members agreed and motion passed.

Reminder – sign-up sheets for refreshments and BSS open house are on the table, as well as the job description for the position of president.

NEW BUSINESS

Judy Worley reported that the Jacob Joner safe, where the GDHS stores important documents, at the Township Building has a lock which is inoperable and frozen. Judy Worley made a motion to permit President Shermeyer to contact a locksmith to repair the safe lock and was seconded by Norma Botterbusch. All members agreed and motion passed.

Judy Worley asked if any member has photos of the old Emig Funeral Home, which was originally located behind the Blue Bell Market, to please contact her. She would like to prepare an Emig family display in the GDHS display case at the Township building. President Shermeyer asked Judy if she planned to take everything out of the case and only have Emig family items on display. Judy has not decided yet what her final idea will be, but President Shermeyer did not feel the entire case should be dedicated to one subject.

Bill Coleman stated he needs membership cards but has enough to finish out this year. Bill was given permission to look into purchasing cards at a reasonable price.

Bill Coleman reported he has been recording at the Blacksmith Shop during the open house events and would like to produce a 2-hour DVD recording that the GDHS could sell. It was also suggested posting short videos on the website. Patty Crider offered her assistance since she is a professional photographer.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

There being no further questions or suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch
GDHS secretary