

Milo Historical Society
Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2015

The Milo Historical Society met for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 7 PM at the museum. The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Victoria Eastman. Minutes from the previous meeting (October 15) were read by Secretary, Allen Monroe followed by the Treasurer's report, by Paul Bradeen. The Curator's report was given by Virgil Valente and Joan Henderson. The upgrade to the Pastperfect cataloging program (version 5) has been installed and is in operation. Schuyler Horton installed the program and added more memory to the computer. He suggested that we might want to start looking at upgrading the oldest of our computers, which is used as the main computer. A new flash drive was purchased for storage of the files. A member of the Stanchfield family has contacted the museum in regards to family items that he would like to donate.

The meeting was opened to discussion of old business and new business with the following discussed:

Old Business:

- **Utilizing the Pastperfect program:**

The "online" component of the Pastperfect program will likely be installed after the holidays. Discussion was held on what items should be placed into the "online" component of the Pastperfect program. Pros and cons were discussed regarding what items would be accessible to view online. A motion was made that for the time being, we should place the library archives and then add the photo collection. This was unanimously approved.

- **Research on ventilation system:**

After some investigation of the Wave System, it has been concluded that further research into a more cost effective system will be needed. An updated report will be given at a future meeting.

- **Proposed programs on Maine Trotting Parks (Paul Bradeen), Maine barns (Allen Monroe) and The Alice Zwicker story by Walter Macdougall (Virgil Valente) :**

Paul agreed to contact the gentleman who has been researching the history of Maine trotting parks and see if he would be willing to present a program for the historical society, perhaps for our April 21 meeting. Allen will do the same for the gentleman who wrote a book on the history of Maine barns. Both gentlemen have referenced Milo in their research findings. Virgil agreed to get in contact with Walter Macdougall regarding a program on Alice Zwicker.

- **Photo collage display ideas (Paul Bradeen):**

Paul proposed that we consider putting together a display that would allow for exhibiting photos from the museum's photo collection. He had seen a display at the Maine Transportation Museum that looked very good and might work for us. Everyone agreed that it is a great idea but will need to be taken on by a committee dedicated to seeing it through. Our curators, Virgil and Joan, need to concentrate on the job of scanning and documenting items. The item was tabled for further discussion.



The meeting was opened to discussion of new business and new business with the following discussed:

- **Restoration of the Town Clock project (Victoria Eastman):**

Victoria reported that she has talked to Robin Larson, Milo's town treasurer, and Camden National Bank to set up an account so that the town clock restoration committee can start collecting donations and other financial assistance (grants). The committee will need to get final approval from Milo's board of selectmen at the next board meeting. Victoria reported that she has been in discussion with various funding sources, including the Maine Community Foundation, and it has been suggested that the committee should start applying for grants now.

- **Museum Security:**

Questions have come up as to what could be done to improve the security system of the museum. Many ideas were shared, including: upgrading the outside lighting, adding an online security system, and other suggestions. Virgil Valente and Seth Barden agreed to investigate possibilities and report back.

- **Front entry roof repair:**

Paul Bradeen reported that the front entry roof has been replaced.

- **Update to the museum website (Seth Barden):**

Seth reported that he is in the process of updating the society's website. The revamping will make the site more mobile friendly, therefore making it easier to navigate on tablets and smartphones.

- **December meeting: Holiday party suggestions and ideas:**

Virgil has volunteered to host the society's annual Holiday party once again at his home. We will meet on December 17. The get together will be a potluck affair and will feature a "Yankee Swap".