MEET ME IN SUNCOOK! Minutes of Meeting July 10, 2018

Present: Marie Ayles, Noreen Bean, Gerald Belanger, Joyce Belanger, Melaine Boisvert (cochair), Joan Bussiere, Jackie Clark, Norma Daviault, Ron Daviault (co-chair), James Garvin, Jeanne Letendre, Louise Letendre, Matt Roan.

- 1. Co-chair Melaine Boisvert called the meeting to order at the Perry Eaton Building on Union Street in Pembroke at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. On a motion by Gerald Belanger, seconded by Norma Daviault, the minutes of the meeting of June 5, 2018, were unanimously approved.
- 3. Noreen Bean gave the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

Checkbook balance on June 5, 2018:

\$7,728.52

Expenditures:

U. S. Post Office Box rental, 6 months

\$37.00

Pembroke Old Home Day Committee contribution (\$225 donation and \$75 Miniature Golf sponsorship)

300.00

Reimbursement of 2018 dues payment by Louise Eaton (2018 dues canceled) 15.00

Income: none

Checkbook balance on July 10, 2018:

\$7,376.52

On a motion by Ron Daviault, seconded by Melaine Boisvert, the treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

- 4. Melaine reminded the committee that the Old Home Day theme for 2018 is "Remember When." She asked whether *Meet Me in Suncook* should provide greeters for Old Home Day in 2018. After some discussion, the committee decided not to provide greeters on a motion by Ron Daviault, seconded by Norma Daviault and approved unanimously.
- 5. The committee moved to a discussion of the future of *Meet Me in Suncook* given the small attendance at recent meetings. Melaine Boisvert observed that because of our uncertain future, the committee has paid our post office box rental only for six months. She noted that *Meet Me in Suncook* currently has no significant projects underway except for our participation in Old Home Day, thus offering relatively little to stimulate attendance at meetings.

Gerry Belanger suggested that we have three options: 1) to disband; 2) to find a project such as the future use of the Village School on High Street if a cooperative developer should step forward to purchase the property; 3) to maintain our existence as an organization, keep our post office box, but meet only at the call of the chair.

In response to the question of what would become of our current checkbook balance, Gerry suggested that we talk with the Trustees of Trust Funds about augmenting the Town Clock Trust Fund, which currently has a balance of \$2,431.06. He suggested transferring our balance to this fund in the case of our dissolution, requiring that the fund be carefully designated for the maintenance of the clock mechanism and the town-leased clocktower only, with the board of selectmen having authority to make expenditures from the fund. Gerry also noted that when he served on the board of selectmen he had suggested creating a capital reserve fund for the clock and requesting annual appropriations to the fund through the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee.

Melaine Boisvert said that she likewise supported the idea of augmenting the trust fund for the town clock.

Regarding the collections that have been donated to *Meet Me in Suncook* over the years and stored in the town vault in the Perry Eaton Building, Melaine also noted that both Pembroke and Allenstown have historical societies and that these items might be transferred to their custody. Regarding the former Buck Street Schoolhouse, now the building of the Pembroke Historical Society, it was noted that the building has no heat, climate control, or protection from vermin, and would not be an appropriate place for storing historical collections.

Regarding Robert Frost Park on Buck Street, Joan Bussiere noted that we had discussed planting lilacs there and had agreed to have the invasive vines and other vegetation cut to open up the view of the river. Jim Garvin said that by a letter of November 11, 2017, we authorized Collins Tree Service, Inc., to thin the riverbank vegetation at a cost not to exceed \$1,200 after receiving approval from the Pembroke Conservation Commission to proceed with this work. Neither we nor the Pembroke Cemetery Commission, which has asked for prices from Collins Tree Service, has received a response.

Another outstanding obligation is our annual work with the Allenstown Historical Society on the Old Home Day float. The committee agreed that our individual members who have assisted with this work would continue to do so.

After further discussion, the committee agreed to maintain our existence as an organization and be ready to support any future projects that respond to our mission statement. On that basis, the following officers were nominated for 2018:

Chair — Melaine Boisvert Treasurer — Noreen Bean Secretary — James Garvin On a motion by Marie Ayles, seconded by Joan Bussiere, this slate of officers was elected unanimously.

- 6. The committee discussed their preferences for a location for our annual Christmas dinner. After some discussion, it was agreed that we would select Veano's Restaurant in Pembroke, but only if the tables there can be arranged for better conversation among the members. If not, the committee agreed to select the Olive Garden in Concord. Ron Daviault kindly offered to inquire whether Veano's could arrange their tables to accommodate our group.
- 7. The next meeting of *Meet Me in Suncook* will be at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, at the selected restaurant unless the chair calls a meeting prior to that date.

New Business

- 8. Marie Ayles, President of the Pembroke Historical Society, announced that the society will be opening their schoolhouse, behind the Pembroke Town Hall, every Wednesday evening between 4:30 and 7:00 p.m. during July and August. The first open house will be on Wednesday, July 11th.
- 9. On a motion by Ron Daviault, seconded by Gerald Belanger, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, James L. Garvin, Secretary