**Hopedale Historical Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 6, 2016**

**Little Red Shop Museum**

**12 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, Massachusetts**

**Present:** Jonathan Chase, Chairman; Raymond Andreotti, Treasurer; Suzan Ciaramicoli, Recording Secretary; Kelly Merchant (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

Absent: Frederick Oldfield, III

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jonathan Chase at 7:04 p.m.

The **Minutes of the December 2, 2015 HHC meeting**, prepared by Sue Ciaramicoli, were emailed to members of the HHC on 1/6/16 at 5:07 p.m. Sue also brought copies to the meeting for review. A motion was made by Ray Andreotti, and seconded by Jonathan Chase, to accept the December 2, 2015 HHC Meeting Minutes as presented (and emailed). Jonathan asked if there needed to be any discussion about the last meeting’s minutes. There being none, and none opposed, the motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Ray reported the following December expenses:

* National Grid - $42.77 LRSM
* Comcast – $73.60 LRSM
* Eversource – $38.63 LRSM
* Verizon - $12.92 LRSM – monthly allocation made to LRSM by the Town.
* David’s Gutters - $120 HHC
* Kelly Merchant – cleaning of LRSM - $100 HHC

Sue submitted for reimbursement of the following expenses:

* $19.96 for photo hooks to rehang Veteran photos after repainting of handicap ramp hallway, which sustained water damage from the winter of 2015.
* $2.11 for the scanning of a large group photo of Draper employees loaned to the LRSM by Ann Burnham

A motion was made by Ray Andreotti and seconded by Jonathan Chase to reimburse Sue for these expenses. Jonathan asked if there needed to be any discussion about these expenses. There being none, and none opposed, the motion passed.

**2015 BHC Partnership Grant**

Jonathan reported that he had submitted documentation to Charlene Perkins Cutler, of the Blackstone Heritage Corridor, for the reimbursement of three months of loom storage fees to the HHC, from the BHC Partnership Grant awarded to the HHC last spring. Jonathan has not received a response, but will follow-up with an email to Charlene. Sue also reported that she had obtained copies of the cancelled checks issued by the Town for these payments from Town

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Treasurer Stephanie L'Etalien and would forward them to Jonathan for attachment to his email to Charlene as additional documentation of payment.

Jonathan also shared that he had sent a progress report regarding the BHC Grant to Charlene and requested an extension for the Project. Sue requested a copy of both communications sent to Charlene for inclusion in the official records of the HHC.

Sue reported that she has not yet followed-up with **Bris Gannett**, Bill Gannett’s son, regarding a possible donation for the purchase of a scanner (or other equipment) for the Cataloging Project. Sue and Kelly met Bris in early November when he was here from Texas for the Milford Regional Medical Center’s fundraising gala, Mélange, which honored the Gannett/Draper families for their longstanding financial support of the hospital.

Kelly offered to check with the Concord Museum about the equipment they utilize at their facility.

Discussion began about the Project planning. Recommendations are:

* Project work days – 2 days per month
* Reach out to volunteers
* We need to organize our thoughts
* Jonathan and Sue agreed to take and review the PastPerfect Museum Software CD and manual about Cataloging Collections
* Two meetings have been planned: Monday, January 16th at 6 p.m. and Sunday, January 24th at 1:30 p.m. here at the LRSM.
* Jonathan will purchase ***Nomenclature 3.0***, “a much-expanded edition of Robert G. Chenhall's system for classifying man-made objects, originally published in 1978. The Chenhall system is the standard cataloging tool for thousands of museums and historical organizations across the United States and Canada. In this edition, three new hierarchical levels of terms allow for more precise definitions of objects and their functions.” The PastPerfect 5.0 museum software utilizes this structure.

Sue reported receiving an email on December 30th, from Bonnie Combs, Marketing Director, for the BHC, Inc., asking for some feedback about the grant(s) that the HHC received last spring. They are starting to put together their annual report and are reaching out to organizations that received grants from them in the past year.

***“What did it mean for your organization to have this funding from Blackstone Heritage Corridor? What impact did this have on your organization?”***

She also requested a photo or two and would like a response by Friday, January 15th.

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**Curator’s Report** – Sue reported that the Museum was open for **Hopedale Winterfest** on Saturday, December 5th, from 10-3 as part of the town-wide event. The Museum was host to five vendors and served refreshments provided by the Friends of Historic Hopedale. Guest weaver, Deb Adamczyk from Warren, Mass., was present for several hours to demonstrate the operation of the restored barn loom. Gift shop items, sponsored by the Friends of Historic Hopedale, were for sale as well.

The Museum was also open from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, December 13th. Several guests visited the Museum during both openings.

Sue reported on the impromptu visit to the Museum by Jon Delli Priscoli just as the Museum was closing on Sunday, the 13th. Mr. Delli Priscoli is owner of both the Grafton and Upton Railroad and Edaville Railroad. He was up (from South Carver) delivering items for his Polar Express attraction here in Hopedale. He purchased an ***Images of America – Hopedale*** book and showed Sue that he had fashioned one of the businesses pictured in the book, the H.L. Patrick Store, to be part of the Dicken’s Village attraction that he is building at Edaville Railroad, located in South Carver, Mass.

Mr. Delli Priscoli, in looking around the Loom Room, mentioned that, “he had a number of items, just sitting in a warehouse that he could give or loan to the Museum.” Sue exchanged business cards with Mr. Delli Priscoli so that they could be in contact at some point in the future.

Sue said that she has had difficulty in contacting Corey Watson about providing snow removal services to the Museum, as he did last year. She has reached out to his dad, Tim, for help in reaching Corey. The contact phone number from last year is no longer his number.

**Local Historic District** – Jonathan reported that there was a misunderstanding by Jennifer Smith, Management Assistant, Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, regarding their expected visit at our December meeting. They were unable to attend this evening. Jonathan will contact them about attending our February meeting.

**Hopedale High School Cupola** – Sue mentioned that she had received a follow-up email on January 4th from Pam Smith, Interim Superintendent, requesting to meet to discuss the cupola and any potential ideas for restoration. Sue will follow-up with Pam.

A motion was made by Kelly Merchant and seconded by Ray Andreotti for the meeting to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. There being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sue Ciaramicoli, HHC Recording Secretary