

Westport Island History Committee

February 19, 2019

AGH
JH
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Present: Dedee Greenleaf-Hodgdon, Jeff Tarbox, Joan Bradford, Mary Coventry

The meeting convened at 6:35 p.m. at the Town Office. There was not a quorum, but those present approved the minutes.

Jeff presented the Treasurer's report. There had been a Maine Memory Network sale of an image resulting in \$20 income. That brings the total funds in the Committee's accounts to \$1506.63, in our regular Operations account, and \$3421.54 in the Trust account. There is a proposal to spend \$750 for the construction of the Friends of Westport Island History website by Pedro Guimares, who built the Town's site. Jeff will discuss this expenditure with the Selectmen. The Town Meeting last year approved an article allowing the Committee to spend our Trust account funds for the purpose of setting up the FOWIH.

In Amy's absence Jeff reported that he, Amy, and Mary Ellen met Monday evening to rough out a website design, using the pages put together by Mary and Amy in 2017 but modifying them to fit with the same template as the Town's website. Pedro Guimares will do the work for us at ½ his usual fee, or \$750.

We now have almost 190 catalog records after the last work session. Jeff distributed a template for cataloging, which we used in the February Town Hall work session. One side of the template has the explanation for how to fill out a catalog entry. The next session is scheduled for Saturday, March 2. Jeff will be away that weekend, so unless someone else will take the lead for that work session, we may postpone the work session until later in the month.

Round the room:

- Gaye has drafted a brief history of Westport which is now on the town website. The History Committee material has been moved to be the writeup for the Committee.
- Jeff is collecting names of all the town officers as another appendix for the History of Westport Island. He will also add some vignettes of interesting citizens over the years, including Harry Swanton and Susan Greenleaf Hodgdon
- Mary is working with the Webber family history. Her husband Richard is helping Dennis with recreating the design of the South End school.
- Suggestion that we should start thinking about Westport's bicentennial in 2028. We could plan a number of events during the year. One idea could be to have a Halloween event with folks dressing up as some of the notable islanders to tell their story in a visit to their grave.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee is considering the idea of establishing an "historic district", incorporating from the Samuel Tarbox cemetery just below the upper entrance of the West Shore Road down to the former site of the Center School, and including the Squire Tarbox Inn, Westport Community Church, and Town Hall. This would include 3 of the town's 4 properties on the National Register.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. **The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 19, at 6:30 pm at the Town Office.**