

SBG January 11, 2016

Present Ben Shambaugh, Wendy Huff, Ben Adriance, Andrew Codispotti & Jessie Chapman, Don Sutton, Patsy Carega, Julie Deak, Susan Davies, Vicky West, Brewster Lee, Amy Underhill, Diane Johnson, Nancy Hansen, Don Brown, Janina Lamb, Bud Martin.

Minutes and Treasurer's report accepted.

Vicki West and Brewster Lee, are exploring a General Store at the corner (Hambrook, not the old general store), they would like to create a 501c, non profit statue. This might be attained through the store becoming a Historic Preservation site. If the property was purchased and was under the non profit, it could then be used for various businesses. There was much discussion about financing, building use, restrictions. Denise, at WEDCO, has been helping with financial information. There was much general support from the group.

Lakes Region Planning Commission update-, there is a meeting Jan 21, 9-11 am in Meredith, where they will discuss the proposal to bring the byway through Sandwich, The town still looking for a Sandwich representative. Wendy Underhill volunteered to explore this position. She will approach the Sandwich Board of Selectman, who will make the appointment.

Collaborative Ads. Mill Falls Mag, Feb 11 deadline for ads. It does not appear that there is enough interest yet. Barnstormers program, are trying to put their program together early with a close date coming soon. Last year we had 8 participants at just over 100\$ each.

Our role in the downtown. Wendy Huff brought us a document outlining the steps for Zoning and Planning board for a new business, it is very helpful information.

The Library is starting a program once a month, one month would be a job Fair at the Library, for the town to see what is offered by the businesses in town.

2016 membership dues-recap, membership fee has been \$90. (140 for an enhanced listing), two years ago we had an early discount.

We asked for additional 50\$ last year to underwrite the new website. Membership is usually around 60 and income has remained static.

Julie Deak spoke to our finances. Printing has increased, mailing has increased. Annual budget is around \$7500. (not including the website cost) 60 members at 100, is \$6,000. We have had some grants, from MVS and Quimby. The web site was mostly subsidized, and Janina is keeping it updated. The brochure is our biggest expense, is it time to shift to a more digital presence?

We want to create revenue from advertising on the web site, and possible sponsors. We expect the Web site to be self-supporting. Ben Shambaugh motioned to go ahead and raise the dues to 130.00, with an early discount of \$120.00. Seconded by Susan Davies, the motion was carried.

Kudos to Don Sutton for his work on the old website, and to Janina for her work on the new web site.

Annual meeting was to be Jan 20 at the Corner House. As it is so soon, we will change it to Monday January 25. Theme for this year is COME AS YOUR BUSINESS.

WEDCO, is looking for a Sandwich Rep for their board of directors.

Winter Carnival is Jan 30, There is no Sled dog race this year, Please support the Wonalancet Dog Race March 11&12

Next meeting is Feb 8.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05

Respectively Submitted

Nancy Jones Hansen