

Friends of the Libby Museum, Inc.

2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Place: Wolfeboro Public Library

September 27, 2023, 7:00 pm

Board Members:

Present: Tom Goodwin, Chairman
Lauren Hammond, Secretary
John Wilkins, Treasurer
Kari Lauber, Membership
Juliann Jacobs
Rainy Wilkins
Rob Headley
Geoff O'Connell
Alana Albee

Absent: Luke Fruedenburg (trustee)

General Members Present:

Trish Liepold
Maria LaGuardia
Suzanne Ryan

Introductions and Rules of Procedures (Goodwin)

Welcome to all. Tom Goodwin, called the meeting to order at 6:30 and introduced the board members present. Tom announced that voting would be done by unanimous consent (UC) and discussion permitted should there be a need.

Minutes Secretary (Hammond)

Minutes from September 22, 2022, AGM minutes were circulated and uploaded to the FoLM website for review. Rob motioned to accept them as written and Kari seconded, vote: UC.

Financial Annual Report for Approval

(Wilkins) Wilkins reported on the current funds of the FoLM. Julie motioned to accept and Kari seconded, vote: UC

Confidential FOLM Only

FOLM Treasury Update

September Board Meeting 9/14/23

08/31/23 Balances

Operating Cash: M&T Bank, MVSB Everyday:	\$4,889
Restoration Funds:	
Cash MVSB	\$249,264
Cash M&T Bank	121,894
12 mos T bill	96,001
Interest due 10/05/23 4.13%	<u>3,999</u>
Total M&T Bank	\$221,894
Total Restoration Cash (MVSB & M&T)	\$471,158
Endowment Fund	\$35,640

Reaffirmation of Current Bylaws by Vote:

In June FoLM held a special meeting to update the bylaws. Each year at the Annual Meeting the bylaws are reaffirmed. Julie motioned to accept the reaffirmation and Rainy seconded vote: UC.

Chairman's State of the Friends as of Sept. 27, 2023

Tom Goodwin recounted events of the past year:

It was a full year of activities and events for the Friends. A successful restoration campaign began with two Public Informational sessions held at the Library with handouts and blueprints to advertise the restoration of the museum. This was also a televised event that aired several times enabling townspeople to view the proposal and be educated about the museum's downfall and needed repairs and upgrades resulting in the warrant article. In addition, Tom and Lauren made a video tape recording and this televised public appeal aired through Wolfeboro Community TV station several times. We had a good PR campaign in the newspaper including letters to the editor, almost every week, and ran several ads leading up to the Warrant article vote. Also, a postcard went out describing the result of a yes or no vote, and signs supporting a yes vote were placed all over town three weeks before the vote. Unfortunately, in spite of a successful fundraising campaign realizing our goal of raising 2.2 million dollars by the FoLM ended with a result that fell just shy of the needed 60% vote at the ballot. The warrant article was written in such a way that required a 60% yes vote to pass. It was 58%.

Since then the FoLM have been in touch with the NH Charitable Trust to ask for direction and to learn a process for returning the \$2.2 million. First, all pledges were released, next a letter went out to ask donors what they wished to do with their donation, and many checks were cut and returned. Some donors opted to reallocate their donation to an endowment or the general fund at the FoLM.

There are some donors who have passed or are undeliverable there are also anonymous donors and interest earned on holdings from donations that we are still looking for guidance on from NHCT. There is still some more to be done on this and it is currently a major focus of the Friend's work. The process continues.

Update from the Town on the current state of the renovation/restoration progress through the trustees.

Luke did not make it to the meeting, so Tom reported what he knew from the trustees: They have gone to Bergeron for an appraisal and a report on what the order of operations should be in fixing the building. The town is looking to plan this out with a small warrant article on the ballot for 2024 that will include small bites, the major renovation will be in 2025 at the earliest.

Question about FoLM's current holdings what the intentions are for making contributions to the Town for restoration? Traditionally FoLM gives to support programs and exhibits. Tom responded that most likely we will not want to fund any minor projects that they intend to do this year, but we will open discussions to assist with restoration at a later date. Some of the funds are earmarked for Endowment, and another donor asked to keep it for use on the preservation of the collection.

Open discussion from the Friends in attendance on what they feel we should do with the funds and topics for the future.

- Not in support of donations until the building issues are addressed.
- Concerns about the roof, a new soft spot located at the back side of the museum, and the mold. Does the town's insurance provider know about the condition of the building?
- General consensus from the public is that FoLM will not support anything until the building is fixed.
- No activities should be supported.
- Bergeron Report is expected end of Sept/Oct.
- Will NHCT come back and put pressure on the Town to restore?
- CIP wants to restore the Community Center
- NH AG was a keynote speaker at a conference of the States Charitable Trusts and sent out a message that all the trustees state-wide are accountable for their fiduciary duties to the trusts they serve. So, sometime in the future, the trustees will most likely be held accountable. However, the AG's office had other priorities this past year and became sidetracked and let the museum down.
- The discussion that all of the selectmen should not be all the trustees of the Libby Museum because there is a conflict of interest. Three selectmen could be trustees and perhaps two of the Friends could become trustees. A warrant article might be able to come forward to change this.
- Question about calling on Ron Harvey to assess the Libby's collection to see if it can be restored. The original plates of Dr. Libby are one area that he previously said can be restored.
- It will most likely be a dormant year for the Friends.
- Several BOD retired as of this meeting: Stacie Pope, Kari Lauber, Rob Headley, and John and Rainy Wilkins. They all have also said they will continue to support us. Thank you greatly for your service and hard work. We made all of our goals and worked well as a team and our efforts were appreciated by all!
- The Bylaws state that there must be a minimum of 5 people on the board of the Friends. We have 4 and one still deciding. Looking to fill a treasurer

Rob motioned to adjourn, and Julie Seconded the vote: UC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Hammond
September 22, 2022

