



Simes House Foundation general membership meeting Oct. 29, 2015

Quorum achieved with eight members who are not directors, plus two guests. Call to order at 700pm.

Directors present: Pierson, W. Shain, Welker, Williams, Green, B. Shain.

Directors absent: Keohan, King, Manter, Metcalfe, Parker.

Verification of notice of meeting acknowledged.

President's report

Jim Pierson recaps return of house to town, authorizations to use funds and plans, permission to contact architect, and agreement from town for events on the property for two years. Notes town meeting activity and interaction with town, CPC, town manager. Also notes lack of details provided, inflated figure of cost that was put before town meeting, Keven Joyce reading SHFI statement at town meeting, Randy Parker's action at town meeting. Pierson says to date SHFI has no more information on what the reduced funding will support. Summarizes parameters for absentee ballot process, dues, nominations. Acknowledges questions as to SHFI new role and new mission statement to serve as advocate for development of Simes House property.

Vice President's report

Will Shain recognizes SHFI has no fiduciary responsibility to the Simes House project, and that managing St. Catherine's Chapel Park is the primary role. Notes SHFI can serve historical education role. Acknowledges service of Manter, King, Parker and Metcalfe. Says SHFI is working with K of C to put on tree lighting for this year.

Treasurer's report

Rick Welker recognizes the perseverance and dedication of all of the remaining board members and the Shains in particular for all that they endured. Proud that we stayed together for the benefit of the house and commons. Notes town meeting actions, notes possible increased operational costs after restoration is complete.

The general fund for SHFI is about \$9,100. Approximately \$79,300 is in the St. Catherine's endowment. SHFI realized a \$4,500 loss for the year, compared to a \$3,800 loss last year. However, excluding St. Catherine's, the net loss is \$1,700 for the year.

Notes building insurance no longer an expense. Balance sheet comprised of park and loan due to Land Management. Believes SHFI can at least break even on an annual basis going forward with continued membership support, donations and events. Membership stabilized at 50 members, will continue to work to increase membership. Notes role of SHFI as potential manager of Simes House. Seeking better quote for directors and officers insurance. Worked with the town finance staff on the timely and accurate transfer of the Simes House assets and insurance coverage.

W.Shain motion to accept, Green second. Vote unanimous.

Secretary's report

Paul Williams reads minutes of March 19, 2015 general membership meeting. (Available at http://www.simeshousefoundation.org/meeting-minutes.html)
Green motion to accept, Welker second. Vote unanimous.

Events committee

Margaret McSharry says several fundraising activities have been held since the last General Meeting. The Easter Egg Hunt was held March 28. The hunt and several activities remained free of charge. \$441.05 was raised through photos with the Easter Bunny, sale of one cookbook,

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donations and sale of tickets, which were utilized for games and purchase of bunny ears and balloons. A "dining out day" was held at Stowell's in April. \$262 was raised, which included a generous donation by Dan Stowell. \$1,535 was raised in May through a successful plant/bake sale. A tag sale in June resulted in \$1,650.

Vote for director

Pierson notes email call for nominations, and only response was by Green for a three-year term. W. Shain motion to elect Green, B.Shain second. Vote unanimous, 13 including absentee.

Bylaw revision size of board reduce to seven directors

To amend the Simes House Foundation Inc. bylaws to reduce the number of directors to seven, exclusive of the selectmen's appointee.

Motion by B.Shain, Green second. Vote: 13 approved.

Bylaw revision saving clause

To amend Simes House Foundation bylaws to add the following article: Failure of literal or complete compliance with the provisions of these bylaws in respect to dates and times of notice, or the sending or receipt of same or errors in phraseology of notice of proposals that in the judgment of the members at meetings held do not cause substantial injury of the rights of members, shall not invalidate the actions or proceedings of the members at any meeting. Motion by W.Shain, Welker second. Vote: 14 approve.

Mission statement revision

To support a cost-effective restoration of the Simes House and Manomet Commons in Plymouth, Mass., for the benefit of the public. This support will include educating the public on the important history of the house, enhancing cultural identity, and encouraging community service. Our stewardship includes management of St. Catherine's Chapel Park at White Horse Beach as a self-sustaining community landmark. Our long-term vision includes the opportunity to manage the daily operations of the Simes House when the restoration project is complete. Motion by Green, W.Shain second. Vote: 14 approve.

Grounds and ops

W. Shain notes need for fall cleaning at St. Catherine's and need for new committee chair. Pierson says it will be subject for next board meeting. Green says he will serve but not chair.

Public comment

Linda Williams asks about tree lighting, and whereabouts of lights.

Pierson and W. Shain respond about working with K of C, permit is in process, Friday after Thanksgiving, decorating coordinated with town, note separation of lighting and decorating. Shain notes offer to town to purchase new tree but town declined at this time.

Election of officers

W. Shain motion to retain present officers annual term, Green second.

Vote: Unanimous.

Keohan is seventh director in response to question by Linda Williams.

Motion to adjourn

Green moves to adjourn, W. Shain second. Adjournment in time for 8:30pm Patriots game.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Williams, Secretary