

To all BHS members and friends,

Just a reminder that any of you who wish to become members can do so by sending your \$10 check to the Berlin Historical Society at 108 Shed Road, Berlin, VT 05602. Also, if you would rather not receive these e-mails please notify me and I will remove your name from our list (moturn1989@yahoo.com).

Following are the minutes of our June 24 meeting:

Berlin Historical Society

June 24, 2015

The meeting, presided by President Norb Rhinerson, commenced at 7:05 with the following members present: Norb Rhinerson, Manny and Mary Garcia, Corinne Stridsberg, Cheryl Poor, Anita Flannigan, Vern Turner, Richard Turner and three new members, Liz Davis Fortman, Robert and Toni Forrend.

The Treasurers report showing our total net assets as \$51,552.86 as of May 20 was given by Manny Garcia and approved by members present. The full treasurers report is filed in our office in the notebook with the meeting minutes.

Minutes of our October 2014 meeting which I neglected to send out will be sent after this meeting.

Our Certificate of Deposit at the Vermont State Employees Credit Union comes due on July fifth. It was a five year CD that earned just over 3%. After discussion about where to put this money, a motion was made by Norb and seconded by Cheryl to “invest \$30,000 in a mutual fund, \$15,000 in a new CD with the remainder in our checking account with the minimum required in the shares account at the Credit Union”. It is believed that we could receive a 1.75% return on a six year CD at the Credit Union and could withdraw from this account if we found it necessary. If this is found to be possible we could increase the amount in the CD and hold less in the checking account where the interest rate is next to zero. The motion was approved unanimously. The president, treasurer and secretary will talk to Mark Perry, an Edward Jones representative, about the mutual fund.

Election of officers. This being the first business meeting we have held this year we elected the following officers:

President – Corinne Stridsberg was nominated by Richard Turner and seconded by Anita Flanagan. There being no other nominations, she was unanimously approved.

Treasurer – Norbert Rhinerson was nominated by Anita Flanagan and seconded by Cheryl Poor. There being no other nominations, he was unanimously approved.

Secretary – Richard Turner was nominated by Cheryl Poor and seconded by Anita Flanagan.

There being no other nominations, he was unanimously approved.

We need to discuss the election of a Vice President and a Board of Directors at a subsequent meeting.

Our new president, Corinne, continued the meeting at this point. She suggested that as an incentive for new membership we should develop a few perks that members would receive. One perk she suggested was that we join Ancestry.com for members to use. The questions arose as to the cost to our society and does our membership in the Vermont

Historical Society allow all our members access to Ancestry.com through them? This will have to be checked out.

We have purchased our new laptop computer, monitor and wireless keyboard/mouse. The operating system is Windows 8.1 and Microsoft Office is the only software we have on it to date. Vern will research what it will cost to purchase Family Tree Maker which he feels is the best software for putting on all of our accumulated genealogical data on early Berlin residents.

Our e-mail hasn't been working for some time now since the town re-arranged the system. We would like to retain the old address which is historicalsociety@berlinvt.org. Norb moved that we bring in a technician (\$130/hr) to get it to working again and Manny seconded it. Approved. It probably wouldn't take more than a half hour to fix.

Corinne has initiated a Facebook page entitled "BerlinVermontMemories" and has created a number of interesting postings on it since April. This is another good way to get the word out about us and already has a following on the site. Corinne would like suggestions for additional postings.

We were recently visited by Michael Fiske who has been researching his Nye ancestors. He has obtained a diary written by Mary Hubbard Nye which was written between 1812 and 1837. Mary and her husband, Elijah Nye, moved to Berlin in 1797 from Glantonbury, Conn. Michael has done extensive research relative to the diary and has transcribed the entire document. In addition he has written an accompanying document giving the full names of people mentioned in the diary (Mary usually used first names or last names), relationships of the principles and his own narrative which through his research allows for greatly expanding the story. We were given a transcribed copy of the diary and a copy of the document written by Michael. His plans are to give the original diary to the Vermont Historical Society which would be an excellent choice for a permanent repository. Michael lives in Columbus, Ohio and has property in Topsham, Vt. He joined our Society and hopes to attend meetings when here in Vermont. Perhaps Michael could expand on his story at a future meeting.

We also were visited by Meredith Dodge who has a considerable amount of history of the Dodge family who were prominent in Berlin's past. Members of the Dodge family owned the farm on the Barre-Montpelier Road where the bowling alley is now located and also the farm on Scott Hill Road near the south end of the N/S airport runway. Meredith would like to present the Dodge story at a meeting, so I suggested that it would be appropriate at our next May dinner meeting where there would be a greater audience. She said that would give her time to complete her research and agreed to present it at that time.

I told members about the time capsule that was placed in the ground next to the Veterans Memorial rock at Berlin Corners. It was placed there about 1991 and is to be opened a hundred years later. We have a folder on it in the Berlin General drawer of our files. We probably are the only ones who have a record of it and will be able to remind town officials to open it in 2091.

The meeting adjourned at around 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Turner, Secretary