



The Woodbury Historical Society

Rushmore Memorial Building
543 Route 32 • P.O. Box 30
Highland Mills, N.Y. 10930
(845) 928-6770

WHS Trustee Meeting Minutes – 2 pages
March 29, 2025

Officers and Trustees present: Alex Prizgintas, Millicent Treloar, Leslie Rose, Walt Stanfield Jr., Joanne Calore, Bob McCue, June Menkens, Viktor Prizgintas, Robert Anzalone, Arlene Maher, Bill Doyle, Neil Crouse (12 of 14, a quorum). Others present: John Kelemen; Irma Escallier, Village of Harriman Historian.

Meeting was called to order by President Alex Prizgintas with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Minutes of the February 8, 2025 meeting were read out loud by Alex Prizgintas. Minutes were approved by all after no discussion or corrections. Arlene Maher motioned to approve, Bill Doyle seconded.

Treasurer's report was given by Alex Prizgintas. Total Account Balance on 2/28/25 was \$87,405.27. Line overview attached. All approved. Millicent Treloar motioned to approve, seconded by Joanne Calore.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery – Village and Town might contribute to a historic marker or other plaque and provide more support to the ground's maintenance (weeds, trash, etc.) of the Town-owned Peckham/Coffey cemetery, currently taken care by Woodbury Commons.

Collections/Property Markers – Barbara and Bill Avenier donated 2 large crockery items circa 1870-1900. Historic site markers have been repainted for Estrada Road, the WHS Rushmore Building, and the Revolutionary war campsite near the Iron Chef (previously Gasho of Japan) restaurant.

Gatehouse (GH) –

- The building heating and alarm issues have been fixed.
- Joanne will contact the Town about the imminent need to replace the boiler (now 20 years old), as the Town installed air conditioning in 2024. Note that the Town owns the building and assumed its routine maintenance following the completion of renovations in 2012.
- Need to determine if the alarm system requires ongoing phone service from Frontier and the scope of services billed by Frontier.
- A spring Special Event library joint program is scheduled during the Saturday May 3 open house.
- Donations for the Highland Mills Food Pantry will be collected on the GH stairs at every open house.
- The 2025 season will honor Dottie Morris. It is on track to open Saturday April 26, 1-4 PM: Reprints of 3 of Dot's booklets will be available for donations/promotions (the Proctor book will have an added preface by Alex, and the 2 fundraising items will be reproduced as is); display poster boards and physical props are in progress; the boy scouts will open the Gatehouse for visitors with a flag ceremony.

Membership – 134 names (individuals/families/businesses) as of March 29, 2025; 86 are renewals (70%). The membership increases by a few individuals each month.

Public Relations/Website/Social Media – Maintaining strong showing and presence in all media, new photos of old schoolhouses are posted on Facebook.

Publications – WHS brochures will be reprinted. Two Woodbury history graphical timelines are in progress. A spring/summer Newsletter is expected in late May/early June. Many ideas for future Newsletter articles were discussed. Alex will ask Miriam to take over InDesign graphics and layout for the 2026 calendar and future WHS publications. Purple Goat is an alternative for design/layout services.

Scholarship – Two winners were selected, to be announced by the MWSD the first week in June. WHS will announce them at the first board meeting after.

Calendar for 2026 – Bob McCue will take photos of old and new firehouses; Joanne and Alex are reaching out to the police, fire, and ambulance services for historical and contemporary information. Millicent will edit and proofread.

Old Business:

Fifty People Who Shaped Orange County – Date is set for Sunday April 27, 2025 from 12PM to 4PM. Middletown opted out of participation due to a schedule conflict. This was offset by Greenwood Lake joining the program. The genealogy and archeology societies also will be present.

Sunday June 22 Speaker program - Tuxedo Park History and the Wee Wah Beach Club, by Stuart McGregor, is confirmed. A speaker fee of \$125 was approved by all, following a motion by Viktor Prizgintas, seconded by June Menkens.

November annual meeting speaker – Waiting to hear back from Barbara Hansen Cali about a talk on the Bear Mountain Bridge or other topic drawn from her forthcoming book. An alternative speaker is Beacon Historical Society President, Denise Doring VanBuren, about the Mount Beacon Incline Railroad. A \$100 speaker fee for the event was approved by all, following a motion by Leslie Rose, seconded by Joanne Calore.

Bank CD purchase – A \$60,000 CD was secured on March 7, 2025 for 7 months at 3.92% annual interest rate. This instrument will expire on October 7, 2025. The Treasurer will need direction and approval regarding reinvestment from the WHS board, by a September or earlier meeting (per March 30, 2025 email from Alex).

Woodbury Beautification Committee Veteran's Banners – A banner substitution was made for Howard Gregory to replace Lewis "Bud" Burgunder as we have no photo of Bud Burgunder.

New Business:

New print materials - New styles of presenting Woodbury history in graphical posters or small flyers are being considered – large sized for use in stores and public buildings and small for individual's "refrigerator art."

Subscription to Constant Contact – The size of the membership list and appeal of graphically enhanced communication tools require a specialized service for distribution as conventional email list blasts are cumbersome. Constant Contact is widely used by small organizations and affordable at a cost of \$35/mo. A subscription at that price was approved by all, following a motion by Viktor Prizgintas, seconded by Neil Crouse.

WHS liability insurance – The premium for this required insurance was increased by \$211/year, starting May 24, 2025. The new premium is roughly \$1,026 annually. No approval needed.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned. Bill Doyle motioned, Viktor Prizgintas seconded, all approved.

Woodbury Historical Society

Treasurer's Report

Month Ending:

February 28, 2025

Gatehouse Checking			
Opening Balance		\$	557.44
Deposits	\$	525.00	
Transfers	\$	-	
Expenses	\$	(983.37)	
Ending Balance		\$	99.07

Gatehouse Savings			
Opening Balance		\$	19,954.16
Deposits	\$	-	
Transfers	\$	-	
Interest	\$	15.30	
Ending Balance		\$	19,969.46

Historical Society Checking			
Opening Balance		\$	2,702.12
Deposits	\$	455.00	
Transfers	\$	-	
Expenses	\$	(755.68)	
Ending Balance		\$	2,401.44

Historical Society Savings			
Opening Balance		\$	59,993.15
Deposits	\$	-	
Transfers	\$	-	
Interest	\$	46.05	
Ending Balance		\$	60,039.20

Scholarship Savings			
Opening Balance		\$	4,750.92
Deposits	\$	145.00	
Transfers	\$	-	
Interest	\$	0.18	
Ending Balance		\$	4,896.10

TOTAL CASH ON HAND

\$ 87,405.27