



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 – 4 pages
May 30, 2026

Officers and Trustees present: Alex Prizgintas, Millicent Treloar, Leslie Rose, Walt Stanfield, Jr., Bob McCue, Viktor Prizgintas, Robert Anzalone, Arlene Maher, Neil Crouse, Joanne Calore, Adonya Blair (11 of 14, a quorum). **Others present:** John Blair

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

Minutes of the January 31, 2026 meeting were read out loud by Alex Prizgintas. He noted a correction to the following item:

Under New Business:

Proposed speaker program – Alex would like to present a talk, in May, on the history of the Woodbury Public Library. He would like to present that jointly with a library board member. He requested WHS board approval to approach the library board with this proposal. All approved, motioned by Viktor Prizgintas, seconded by Joanne Calore.

Should read:

Proposed speaker program – Alex would like to present a talk, in May, on the history of the Woodbury Public Library. The program would be hosted jointly by the Woodbury Historical Society and Woodbury Public Library. He requested WHS board approval to approach the library board with this proposal. All approved, motioned by Viktor Prizgintas, seconded by Joanne Calore.

Robert Anzalone motioned to approve. Arlene Maher seconded. All approved.

Treasurer's report was given by Alex Prizgintas. Total Account Balance on 4/30/26 was \$95,805.96. Line overview attached. Millicent Treloar asked for an explanation of the approximate \$9,000 increase in the total balance since December 31, 2025. Alex noted that Bill Cavanagh donated \$10,000, half for the Gatehouse and half for the WHS. All approved the report. Joanne Calore motioned; seconded by Walt Stanfield, Jr.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery – No updates,

Collections/Property –

- Acquired a full set collection of Hall Line brand (a company formerly in Highland Mills) fishing lines and spoons. Emails from Alex to the Board on February 16, 2026 and March 2, 2026 contain the proposal and cost approvals (attached).
- Pomeroy historic site markers were delivered and are installed for the GH and the Dodds house locations (unveiling ceremonies held May 3, 2026 and May 16, 2026 respectively) and for the Rushmore Estate and Grange Hall building in Mountainville – today a day care center on RT 32 (unveiling ceremonies to be held for the latter two). The next round of applications to the Pomeroy Foundation begins in July. We will nominate Sweet Clover Farm at that time.

Gatehouse (GH) –

- The unveiling ceremony for the Pomeroy Historic Marker was held on May 3, 2026.
- The 2026 GH Open House theme is “everyday items,” featuring antique kitchen artifacts.
- Joanne has secured summer children’s library programs for June 29, July 18, and July 25. The Fall Fest is in planning. Date to come.
- The next 2026 GH Open House is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 12 noon to 3 PM.

- Millicent Treloar recently resigned from the GH committee, citing both warm and high regards for Joanne's success in her GH leadership transition. With complete trust in, and admiration of, Joanne's accomplishments, Millicent is ready to move on to other activities. She looks forward to remaining in touch and enjoying the future museum displays at open houses.

Membership – 143 names (individuals/families/businesses) with 88 renewals as of May 30, 2026.

Public Relations/Website/Social Media – All media outlets are kept up-to-date with fresh postings by Alex and Miriam.

Scholarship – Victor Ocasio-Ortiz received the Galberd scholarship to study biology as an undergraduate major at SUNY Binghamton, eventually to pursue medical school. Gregory Grisar received the Kirk scholarship to study history at SUNY Binghamton. Announcements to be made on June 4, 2026 by MWCD in an awards ceremony. Alex will present the scholarships.

Calendar –

- 2026-Alex reported that sales ended in March 2026. Some 75 to 80 calendars remain to be used in future membership promotions.
- 2027-Working on an assortment of “then and now” photos of Woodbury. Alex will get quotes for cost-scaled print runs. The number of extras from expected individual donors will trade off for storage space.
- Committee to meet, tentatively, in mid-June. Calendar to be available for the November 8, 2026 Annual meeting. A package of 3 years of calendars (2025, 2026, 2027) for donations will be available for the Annual meeting and the December train show.

Garden – Viktor Prizgintas reported that the window boxes and flowers have been installed. He will move forward with ordering the garden sign from Amazon.com, expense approved (a maximum of \$100) at the September 20, 2025 WHS Board meeting. He proposed a “Garden Party” to commemorate the refurbished garden, dedicated to Dona Weyant. This event is tentatively scheduled for July.

Publications – The spring 2026 Newsletter is published: printed and mailed.

Old Business:

Orange County “50” annual spring event –

- In 2026, the WHS hosted “Orange County’s 250th: Artifacts and Individuals of the American Revolution,” highlighting ways that local communities were involved in the Revolutionary War, as part of the 250th United States Anniversary Celebrations. This event was held at the Senior Center on Sunday, April 26, from 12 noon to 4 PM, with 17 organizations, including the county historian, presenting stories and items from their collections. Some 350 people attended.
- Planning is in progress to expand this assembly, beginning in 2027, to make it a cooperative annual occurrence hosted and coordinated by a committee of local historical societies. Scouting has commenced for larger facility to hold future events. The Middletown SUNY-Orange Campus, the Castle in Chester, and Goshen High School are locations under consideration. A 2027 theme of Old Houses has been suggested.

New Business:

Town of Woodbury 250th Liberty Fest –

- Opening day is on June 6. This afternoon/evening event will include a grand-opening ribbon cutting for the new Sweet Clover Farm Distillery and a presentation by Alex, “Woodbury in the Revolution.” This location, known locally as Sweet Clover Farm, was an encampment site for the Continental Army during the Revolution. After the war, it was owned by generations of the Seaman family and operated as a farm. The Seamans eventually created the highly successful Sweet Clover dairy farm.
- The WHS purchased a full-page ad in the sponsorship booklet for the Liberty Fest municipal event, for \$300. Approval obtained by email vote of board members on April 9 (attached).

The 2026 Annual Meeting – The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 8, 2 PM, Senior Center. The speaker, Robert Buccheri, a renowned local historian, has agreed to a fee of \$400. He will give a talk about New York Revolutionary War history. Approval of the amount was obtained by email vote of the board members April 9 (attached).

Library speaker program – On September 27, Alex will present, in a joint program with the Woodbury Public Library, a talk on the history of the current system and explain the development of the two branches.

Veterans’ Boards – The new boards featuring past Woodbury veterans have been completed and are on display at the Woodbury Public Library until July 4. Going forward, the boards will be displayed annually during the Memorial Day parade. Then, per a recent arrangement with the Woodbury Public Library, the boards will be on display at the Highland Mills branch until July 4.

Copy Machine -- The Rushmore building has a new copy machine. It was acquired within budget (Xerox brand, \$450). It can make only 8.5 x 11-inch copies. This equipment was paid for from the Historian's budget. WHS buys the ink (toner) and paper (this can be stored in desk drawers).

Cabinet below copy machine – The cabinet beneath the copy machine can be replaced with an additional map cabinet at a cost of approximately \$800 for the cabinet (\$685) and base (\$115) (attached). All approved the \$800 purchase. Motion by Neil Crouse, seconded by Viktor Prizgintas.

Announcements:

The Winter and Spring 2026 Newsletters -- These feature a 2-part series about the history of the Seaman family and Sweet Clover Farm. Alex will make these available at WHS opportunities held at the location during Liberty Fest.

Alex's Milk Bottle Museum – This annual open house will be held Saturday, June 6th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Next WHS board meeting – Expect to have the next board meeting in July.

Gatehouse meeting with Town of Woodbury -- On Wednesday, May 20, Alex, Joanne, and Millicent met with Town Councilmen Vernick Alvarez and Brandon Calore at the Gatehouse to discuss the facility's necessary building repairs, costs, public uses, and needs for agreements.

Structural:

- The current furnace and oil tank were new installations in 1996 (when the building renovations began). They have been repaired as required over these past 30 years and are now reaching the end of their functional lives. The oil tank has a leak with a catch pan underneath. Some furnace parts cannot be fixed anymore. This heating equipment could last another 2 or 3 years but needs replacement with a new system.
- The basement windows are covered with plywood that is drafty and moldy. Those need replacements.
- The roof is at the end of its useful life but can scrape by for another few years. A hole recently discovered has been patched with foam from the inside. Both the Gatehouse and Carriage House need new roofs. The most current (2026) estimate for the Gatehouse only is some \$330,000 from Frank Stevens. More bids/estimates are needed, covering both structures.

Agreements/Policy:

- Gatehouse activities and expense matters today are commonly referred to a "1996 Agreement with the Town," along with citing a reliance on the use of "private funds." Alex located an official agreement document (attached): a brief letter from the then Town Supervisor, Joan Caruso, to Dot Morris, dated April 19, 1996. It states that the Town will retain ownership of the GH and will *allow* private organizations to raise funds for repairs. It also refers to expectations of repairs to be made by the Army National Guard, but we have no information about the involvement of this party. The letter, though, does not specify, or cite examples of, or refer to any attached supporting documents explaining what repairs will be made and on what schedule. But it does offer assistance from the Town "in this new venture." Note that In 1996, many agreements were made with handshakes.
- Neil Crouse offered examples of some "private-funds" restoration work in 1996; i.e., a local electrician trained apprentices by having them wire the GH. Likewise, Neil, as a private citizen, learned to sheetrock and paint walls under the direction of a professional painter. Dot Morris had shared with Millicent Treloar (in 2011) that, in (approximately 2006), some stone of the façade by the iron gate collapsed. Wayne Corts (then owner of Falkirk Golf Course) brought over a crew of grounds workers who made the repairs, as a donation, after the Town turned down a request for assistance. These Do It Yourself (DIY) projects were generally undocumented instances of "funds" that were raised by private organizations. Invoices do exist, though, for example, for single-window replacement donations purchased with funds from individuals/families/small businesses. In 2026, the DIY projects and lower-cost purchased improvements with such "private funds" are largely unworkable as the economy and regulations have changed substantially. Note that the floor plan of the GH was altered during the restoration; this is the main reason the GH cannot qualify for "Historic Register" status eligible for federal funds.
- The restoration work under this 1996 agreement, however, was declared by Dot Morris as completed in a ceremony attended by Town and Village elected officials, in 2012 when the lantern was installed. See the announcement under Events at WHS website. Since 2012, the Town Parks and Recreation Department has taken responsibility for grounds. This town department also installed air conditioning units, the equipment paid for with GH funds.
- The Town owns the Gatehouse facility by deed, and some form of official agreement about cost sharing is needed. Alex is promoting the same arrangement as exists for the Rushmore building on RT 32;

that is, the grounds and building structure are maintained by the Town of Woodbury and the Historian and WHS are responsible for the interior (routine maintenance like painting, carpet, cleaning, small repairs; operating expenses and equipment like phones, A/C unit, copy machine; furniture such as desks and chairs, shelves, cabinets; and the archived documents, maps, and physical artefacts). Note that the GH shares interior responsibilities with the scouts and the Woodbury Community Association as those groups share space at the facility. Interior GH and Carriage House costs would be shared among these groups. Alex also is willing to reach out to West Point for assistance with the roofing as a cadet senior community project.

- The GH has limited parking. Since 1996, the owner of Falkirk Golf course has allowed GH visitors to park on the end of the golf course parking lot adjacent to the GH/Golf course stone wall separation. This arrangement needs a formal permission, which Joanne and Alex would like to pursue at the end of the 2026 GH Open House season.

Public uses:

- The current GH facility is used by a scouting troop (the Carriage House); the WHS Gatehouse Committee/Woodbury Historian as a display museum and learning center; and the second floor of the building houses the office of the Woodbury Community Association. These 3 groups (albeit a different scout troop) were central in the fund raising and repairs made following the 1996 Town Agreement. Also, the scouts and the management of the Museum/Learning Center have faithfully carried out, since 1996, the youth activities specified in the 1996 Agreement letter and in the deed codicil.
- The outdoor grounds have always been available as a public park.
- Dot Morris wanted the GH facility to be available as a municipal venue for smaller, overflow Senior Center/ Rez rec building events. Since 2024, the Woodbury Public Library has held children's programs there in this capacity.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned. Neil Crouse motioned, Leslie Rose seconded, all approved.

Woodbury Historical Society

Treasurer's Report

Month Ending:

April 30, 2026

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|--------|
| Gatehouse Checking | | Opening Balance | \$ | 400.12 |
| | Deposits | \$ | 10.00 | |
| | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| | Expenses | \$ | - | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 410.12 |

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|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|-----------|
| Gatehouse Savings | | Opening Balance | \$ | 11,078.16 |
| | Deposits | \$ | - | |
| | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| | Interest | \$ | 9.11 | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 11,087.27 |

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|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Historical Society Checking | | Opening Balance | \$ | 3,778.54 |
| | Deposits | \$ | 80.00 | |
| | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| | Expenses | \$ | (550.76) | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 3,307.78 |

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|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|-----------|
| Historical Society Savings | | Opening Balance | \$ | 11,651.58 |
| | Deposits | \$ | - | |
| | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| | Interest | \$ | 9.58 | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 11,661.16 |

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|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------|
| Scholarship Savings | | Opening Balance | \$ | 6,594.82 |
| | Deposits | \$ | 50.00 | |
| | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| | Interest | \$ | 0.27 | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 6,645.09 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| Certificate of Deposit | | Opening Balance | \$ | 62,502.64 |
| | Deposits | \$ | - | |
| 83.3% WHS | Transfers | \$ | - | |
| 16.7% Gatehouse | Interest | \$ | 191.90 | |
| Ending Balance | | | \$ | 62,694.54 |

TOTAL CASH ON HAND

\$ 95,805.96

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2026 8:49 AM
To: 'Alex Prizgintas'
Subject: RE: Alex Prizgintas: Woodbury Historical Society Purchase Request

Approve.
Millicent Treloar

Hall
Line

From: Alex Prizgintas [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 15, 2026 9:39 PM
To: Alex Prizgintas [REDACTED]
Subject: Alex Prizgintas: Woodbury Historical Society Purchase Request

Good Evening:

I hope that you have all been enjoying the (slow) thaw that February is bringing. Recently, one of our members showed me a unique piece of Woodbury history that is slated to go for auction later this month, and I would like to gauge your opinion on its potential value to our collection.

The item is a beautiful display of fishing lines and spools from Hall Line in Highland Mills, NY (<https://flannerysestateservices.com/servlet/Search.do?auctionId=182&itemId=41520>). Once located on Park Avenue, Hall Line was one of Highland Mills' longest-running businesses and made up the "big three" of fly-fishing companies in Woodbury along with the Leonard and Payne firms. We have a few separate spools on display at the historical society, but I have never seen an item like this in my experience. Should we choose to organize a fishing rod/line exhibit in the future (as has been done in the past), or enhance our standing exhibit in our building, I think it would make an amazing addition.

While historical societies do not (typically) purchase artifacts, we are in a very fortunate state to have received significant financial support over the past year, and I think one of the best ways we can invest such support is through enhancing our collections for the benefit of educating others on our town's history. The item is being auctioned through Flannery's Estate Services in Pine Bush, who also handled the sale of our past friend Herman Galberd's collections when he passed in 2019. I have shared the item already with a few board members who hold a good grasp on our collections, and we preliminarily agreed to put forth a motion of approving \$250 for this item. This would allow for us to place a \$200 maximum bid (of course, with the hope that we win it for less) and also account for the 20% buyers premium. Should the board approve this expenditure, I will give Flannery's a personal call and leave an absentee bid on the item in advance of February 28th. Should we be fortunate to win the bid, payments by check are accepted and I will make the drive to Pine Bush to pick up the item.

I appreciate all of your insight on this and look forward to hearing whether you approve this motion, thank you.

Sincerely,
Alex Prizgintas

~~prizgint@gmail.com~~

From: ~~prizgint@gmail.com~~
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2026 6:51 PM
To: 'Alex Prizgintas'
Subject: RE: Hall Line Display

Hall Line

Great news!
Millicent

-----Original Message-----

From: Alex Prizgintas <~~prizgint@gmail.com~~>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2026 6:47 PM
To: Alex Prizgintas <~~prizgint@gmail.com~~>
Subject: Hall Line Display

Good Evening:

Collections

I wanted to let everyone know that we successfully won the Hall Line display on Saturday (I am glad that we put in a \$300 approval, as it sold for our maximum bid of \$250). I will be traveling to pick it up on Wednesday or Thursday, and it will be on display at WHS for Thursday evening.

Sincerely,
Alex Prizgintas

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 12:39 PM
To: 'Alex Prizgintas'
Subject: official vote RE: Upcoming Board Decisions

Approvals
- Sponsorship book
- Speaker for annual meeting

Hi Alex!

For the official vote, I vote yes to both.

Best,
Millicent

From: Alex Prizgintas [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 9:26 AM
To: Alex Prizgintas [Redacted]
Subject: WHS: Upcoming Board Decisions

Good Morning:

I hope you are having a wonderful beginning to April and the Spring season. Over the last week, two matters have come to my attention that will require board approval. Since we are unlikely to have a board meeting until May, I wanted to initiate these processes as soon as possible.

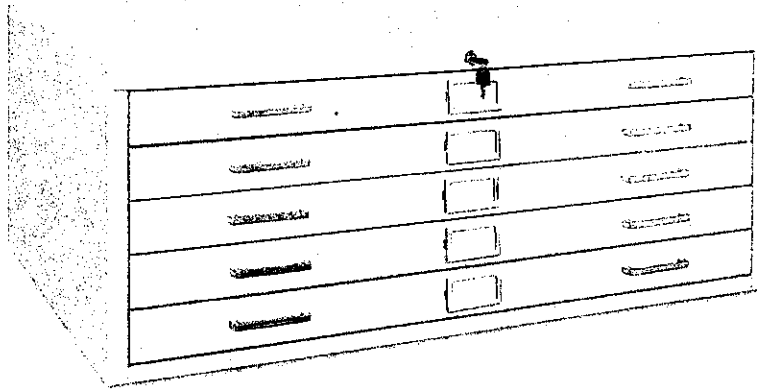
1. Both Millicent and I sit on the Town of Woodbury's 250th committee, which is planning a variety of events starting on Saturday, June 6th, and continuing through the summer. The historical society (and I) will be involved in several of these events, either through stationary exhibits or through presentations constructed by me.

As a part of the event, the Town is creating a sponsorship booklet similar to those for our Memorial Day Parade, where local businesses and organizations can take out spaces in the book as a sponsorship. Millicent and I agreed that a \$300 sponsorship for the inside front cover in color would be fair. Let me know what you think.

2. For our annual meeting, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, November 8th at 2:00 PM, I would like to have a program relating to the 250th in New York. Finding a speaker for this is harder than you may imagine, and it is still more difficult to find one who has an opening. However, performing and speaking at many libraries often allows me to see who is popular regionally, and one name that has come across often is Robert Buccheri. He has been a history teacher at Carmel High School for more than 30 years, and is a reenactor for the French and Indian, Revolutionary, and Civil War eras. He has a Bachelor's in History from the University at Buffalo and a Master's Degree from Western Connecticut State University. He is the Master educator for the Living History Education Foundation and teaches many graduate courses to local educators from the State of New York. He has been awarded the Bob and Marion Wilson Excellence in Teaching Award from the Sons of the American Revolution in 2023. In 2010, Rob was awarded the New York State Excellence in Teaching Award by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

I have spoken to Robert, and he has a program highlighting New York at the dawn of the Revolution, covering the years 1775 and 1776. The program comes complete with the PowerPoint presentation, in addition to being dressed in full period attire and a traveling exhibit of artifacts from the era. His fee, at \$400, is definitely a step up from what we are typically used to paying for programs. However, I think the caliber of his program and his experience (one step away essentially from a re-enactment, which would cost thousands), is well worth the price. His schedule is very busy, which also attests to the quality

Flat File Cabinet - 36 x 24", Tan



Keep large documents safe and curl-free.

- Recommended for blueprints, maps, CAD drawings and artwork.
- Archival safe paint.
- Holds up to 200 sheets per drawer. Lockable.
- Welded, all-steel construction.
- Stack cabinets up to 5 high.
- Front paper depressor and rear hood keep documents flat.
- Optional Flush Base available.

More Images

SPECIFY COLOR:



| MODEL NO. | NO. OF DRAWERS | FITS PAPER SIZE | DIMENSIONS W x D x H | WT. (LBS.) | PRICE EACH | | COLOR | IN STOCK SHIPS TODAY |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 3+ | | |
| H-8796 | 5 | 36 x 24" | 41 x 29 x 16" | 118 | \$685 | \$665 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tan | 1 <input type="button" value="ADD"/> |

SHIPS ASSEMBLED VIA MOTOR FREIGHT

[+ Additional Info](#) [+ Shopping Lists](#) [Request a Catalog](#)

HUGE SELECTION

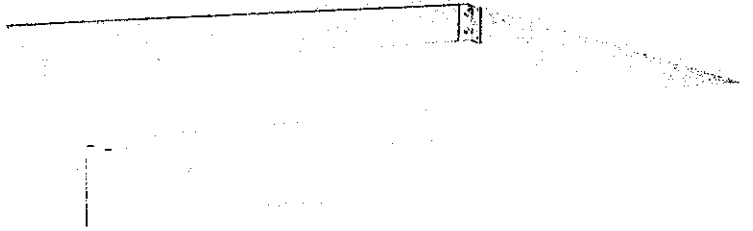
LEGENDARY SERVICE

FASTEST DELIVERY

Flush Base for 36 x 24" Flat File Cabinet, Tan

For a durable, finished appearance.

- Optional flush base for Flat File Cabinets.
- All-steel construction.



Enlarge

SPECIFY COLOR:

| MODEL NO. | DESCRIPTION | WT. (LBS.) | PRICE EACH | | COLOR | IN STOCK SHIPS TODAY |
|-----------|--|------------|------------|-------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 3+ | | |
| H-8798 | Optional Flush Base for 36 x 24" Flat File | 14 | \$115 | \$110 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tan | 1 <input type="button" value="ADD"/> |

SHIPS UNASSEMBLED VIA UPS

[Additional Info](#) [Shopping Lists](#) [Request a Catalog](#)

HUGE SELECTION

LEGENDARY SERVICE

FASTEST DELIVERY

From: ~~mtrel@mail.com~~
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 3:17 PM
To: ~~mtrel@mail.com~~
Subject: Re: Need PDF Can't work with the email graphic RE: Comments? FW: request -- check some of the May 30 minutes

Dear Millicent:

I'm able to change the size of the image, let me know if this copy is better.

