

VOCA Spring Meeting 5/2/2015

At Slate Valley Museum, Granville, NY

Members present: 28

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM by Pres. Giffin.

Thanks to the Valley Slate Museum (card sent by Sec.) for the use of their facility for our meeting and lunch. Began with a welcome from one of the museum staff members.

Minutes of the 10/4/14 Annual meeting and the 3/20/15 board meeting were read and approved.

President's Report: Has received requests for information about epoxy and repairs. The IRS stuff has been submitted. DOC work crews may be cut back due to the state budget problems. Will go to Hildene for the annual Civil War program at Dellwood Cemetery. Rutland Middle School students are now doing community service projects. The vandalism fund bill may go forward next legislative session. More bodies were found near the St. Johnsbury Courthouse. The Facebook and VOCA website continue to look good. Richard Coburn is retiring as County Rep for Essex County.

Secretary's Announcements:

1. Recognition and moment of silence for Mike Walsh of Brattleboro.
2. The AGS conference is 6/23-28 in Westfield, Ma. Peggy Jenks and Charlie Marchant will attend.
3. Need a place for the fall meeting (possibly Richmond).
4. We still need some footstones and county reps.
5. There may be a GPR demonstration in Townshend before Memorial Day – call Charlie for info.
6. There may be a GAR marker in Quechee Antique Center – need the post number to trace. - It is illegal to sell these in VT and NH.
7. There are still a few BGV books for sale. \$31 + \$4 S&H.
8. Get out a do you spring cemetery checks – I saw a lot of cemeteries on the way here that need help.
9. Secretary Marchant has announced his retirement effective the Annual Meeting of 2015.

Treasurer's Report: 1. Motion to accept the report, seconded, carried with questions.

- A. What do the membership numbers mean?
- B. Membership costs and categories should be in every newsletter. According to the 1/13 newsletter: 1 yr. \$10, 5 yrs. \$40, Life \$200.
- C. No understanding of some of the columns and format.

Grants Report: Diane – copy attached – motion made and seconded to accept. – Carried.

Old Business: 1. \$10,000 from the Dean Fund for a better rate of return – no decision since the last meeting. Whit Mowry proposal - Invest \$10,000 in the Vanguard Wellington Fund - It was generally agreed that that was OK, but we need our IRS number to do it.

New Business: 1. Once a year we should have available a current membership report of the different categories and totals. Motion made and seconded to have an annual membership report. Carried.

2. Fall meeting – Richmond, with Robert Brown as speaker.
3. Vandalism Bill – Dennis Devereux (Mt. Holly State Rep.) will look into it for Jan. of 2016 - language was not finalized.