

Falmouth Historical Society/Museums on the Green
2025 Annual Membership Meeting
January 25, 2025

A. Welcome message - Michael Kasparian

- Introduce Current Board Members
- Overview and thankful for a wonderful board and Executive Director for working so well together. Thank you to Rachel Lovett for all her hard work.
- Presenting One New Board Member Bios - Tom Mountford
- Proposed bylaw changes (see attached). Trying to remove some red tape and make it easier for the society to keep moving forward.
- Question was raised about the change to bylaws - How to break a tie vote if only 8 voting? Michael proposed creating an amendment to Article III of the bylaw changes stating that in the event of a tie the Executive Director can vote to break that tie. 13 Yes, 3 Opposed so the Amendment carries. The changes to the bylaws including the amendment to Article II passes unanimously.
- Vote on one new Board member. Motion by John Bissonnette, seconded - all in favor was unanimous.
- New officers - motion, seconded and all approved.

B. Ann Stone - Incoming President

- Overall thank you for having faith in her to take over as President. Thank you to all the staff and to Rachel Lovett for doing such a great job.

C. Financial Report - Bob Ripley

- Starting from a strong position from losses a few years ago. Thank you to Rachel Lovett for finding grants.
- Balance Sheet
 - Note 35% Increase and Cape Cod 5 Investment
 - Insurance looks like a big cost, but this year we had to pay it all at once instead of over the year as in the past. We have a new insurance company this year.
 - See balance sheet attached.
- Operating Budget
 - See attached.

D. Overview of the Last Year - Rachel Lovett, ED

- Fix Wicks campaign is underway. We are having a 3rd generation wallpaper restorer come in to restore the wallpaper in the hallway/stairs. We are also going to have HVAC installed which will help with climate control that is so important. Our goal is to raise 1 million dollars - 500k to sustainability, 250k to education, 250k towards work being done. This is a very timely endeavor with the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution and Dr. Wicks was a Revolutionary War Veteran who built the house in 1790, after the completion of the war. The war ended in 1783. Everyone has an opportunity to get involved to help support and save this building that will live on after us.

-New Hire Donna Garcia as Collections & Education Manager

-Acquisitions - Doty Paintings purchased at auction with ties to Falmouth. Harpoon donated.

- Two 1830s folk-art portraits of Captain Levi Doty and Grace Fish Doty, highlighting Falmouth's maritime heritage, now displayed in the whaling gallery at Conant House, were acquired with donor funds in October.

- The museum also received a significant donation of a harpoon crafted in the shop of James D. Driggs (1820-1903) who was born in Quissett. The item was on loan since 2001, and was recently donated by Douglas Correllus of East Falmouth.

-Programming Highlights

- We ran 51 mission focused programs in 2024

- 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution starting 2025. Events and new exhibitions are coming. The Society is working on an exhibition that will open in June on Falmouth's road to the American Revolution. Excited about events in 2025.

-Questions - Is there a campaign end date? The end of 2027, that being said, the deadline will extend if we have not met the goal. If town meeting in April 2025 goes well and we obtain the \$107k, is that part of the 1 million we are raising? Yes. So how are we raising the other 900k? Through corporate sponsorships, major donors, legacy donations.

- We appreciate members' continued support as we enter 2025.

-Ann Stone

Wrapping up the meeting with lots of thank you's again. She sees 4 pillars - staff, board, volunteers, and membership equals a successful organization. We've been going for 125 years and ready to keep going!

-Motion to adjourn at 11:21am. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Gray, Communications & Membership Manager
Falmouth Historical Society/Museums on the Green