



Falmouth Historical Society 2025 Annual Meeting

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Falmouth Historical Society/Museums on the Green
2025 Annual Membership Meeting
January 25, 2025, 10:30am

Meeting Minutes

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 Bio - 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

FALMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Proposed Slate of Officers – January 2025

Ann Nagel Stone for President

Retired occupational therapist of 47 years, most recently worked at JML Care Center in Falmouth. Previously worked at hospitals and healthcare facilities on the Cape and in northern New England. Bates College (BA) and Sargent College of Boston University (MSOT). Resident of Falmouth since 1982 with her husband Tom where they have their raised their now two adult children. At the First Congregational Church, she has been a Deacon and co-chair of its Capital Campaign and now is on the Outreach Committee. She is an officer on the Board of the Upper Cape Chaplaincy, a Town elected member of the Falmouth Democratic Town Committee, and an officer of the Falmouth Gun Safety Coalition. For FHS/MOG, she has been a walking tour guide for a several years and volunteers in Collections and is on the Collections Committee. Ann is committed to promoting the mission of the Society to the Falmouth community.

Judy Durham for Vice President

Retired in 2016 from teaching elementary school in Connecticut and Maryland for over 18 years. Prior to that she worked for Aetna Property and Casualty for almost 20 years as an underwriter and in product development. Judy held a variety of positions in both fields. Most recently she was a grade team leader, working collaboratively to successfully plan and implement the Common Core Curriculum for the first grade. Judy holds a B.A. in English from St. Olaf College and a Master's in Education from the University of Hartford. She is a member of the Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education. Judy has been involved in many volunteer projects. She was co-manager of soliciting businesses for donated materials, as a member of the planning committee of a large community project to build a Leathers Playscape in her hometown. Currently, Judy volunteers at the Falmouth Service Center, Hand-in-Hand Thrift Store, and just recently retired as Chairperson of the Outreach Committee at her church. Judy has been a part of the MOG Third Grade Colonial Program. She has chaired the Katherine Lee Bates Poetry Fest at the museum for the past two years. As a previous educator, Judy is interested in bringing history to life through programming for our children, and the local school system.

Robert G. Ripley, Jr. for Continuing as Treasurer

Bob retired from a career as a senior bank and wealth management executive with extensive banking, finance, audit, investment and strategic planning experience. He started his career in banking at Shawmut Bank and in 1991 founded Trust Tax Services of America, acquired by SunGard in 2003. Among his past positions are President, Merchants Trust Company; Vice President, State Street Bank; and Executive Vice President, Martha's Vineyard Savings Bank. His love of local and American history has drawn him to work with a number of historic institutions. His current job is for the Concord Museum as Director of Finance and Operations. As a volunteer, he serves on the Massachusetts Historical Society Board as Trustee and Chair of its Collections and of the Audit Committees. He has been a resident of Falmouth since 2008. In that time, he has been chair of the Town of Falmouth's Finance Committee and of the Falmouth Public Library Support Fund. Currently serving on the Town's 250th Committee. He also was previously on the FHS Board. In the past year, he served on the Search Committee for our new Executive Director. He has degrees from Bentley (BS, accounting) (also now chair of its Legacy Society), Bryant University (MST), and Nichols College (MBA). His desire to serve his community and support our new Executive Director has led him to volunteer again for the FHS Board.

Carolyn Tarr for Continuing as Secretary

Carolyn Tarr has lived in North Falmouth for most of her life. This is where she and her husband John raised their three daughters, now adults. Recently the oldest and their son-in-law have moved back to North Falmouth with five grandchildren. It is a joy but also an education in what challenges and advantages there are for young families in Falmouth today. When her own family was young Carolyn combined a variety of work-life experiences in the early years she was a floral designer while also helping her husband run his business as a self-employed contractor. She then worked as an Event Manager first at Highfield Hall and next at Museums on the Green for a total of over 12 years. While at the Museums, she also managed the office and coordinated volunteers. Currently employed as a Furniture Artist at Vintage Furniture Reclaimed in West Falmouth, she redesigns vintage pieces for modern homes. Art, with its endless possibilities, is her passion. Carolyn has developed deep roots in the community through personal and professional relationships from work, neighborhood boards and her children's schools. She has a strong appreciation for the town and its unique history.

Welcome from Board Chair, Michael Kasparian



Current Board Members

- Michael Kasparian, President
- Ann Stone, Vice President
- Carolyn Tarr, Secretary
- Robert G. Ripley, Jr., Treasurer

- John Bissonnette
- Judy Durham
- Rocco Maffei
- Robin Ketchum
- Heather Shepley
- Carolyn Tarr





Proposed Bylaw Changes



- **Article III – Board of Directors**

- It is recommended to establish a minimum of nine Directors.
- The Executive Director would become an automatic, non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

- **Article IV – Elimination of the Second Vice President Position**

- The Second Vice President position would be removed from the bylaws to streamline the leadership structure.

- **Article VI – Executive and Nominating Committees**

- The Executive Committee, comprised of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, would also serve as the Nominating Committee. Once selected members still need approval from the board and membership to be confirmed.

- **Article VII – Quorum Requirements**

- The quorum for Board meetings would be defined as one more than half of the actual number of Directors.

- **Article VI – Standing Committees**

- To optimize resources and time, ad hoc committees may be appointed by the President for specific tasks, such as event planning, and dissolved upon the completion of their work.
- Standing committees would be limited to those essential to our operations, such as the Collections Committee.
- The Executive Committee has the responsibilities to also act as the Finance Committee. Having the Executive Committee also act as the Finance Committee ensures efficient and informed financial oversight while maintaining accountability and transparency through regular reporting to the full Board.

Tom Mountford

- Tom has been an invaluable member of our community and one of the longest-serving volunteers at the Society. His deep-rooted commitment to preserving and sharing Falmouth's history makes him a natural choice to help guide our organization into the future.
- Tom's extensive knowledge of local history stems not only from his work with the Society but also from his distinguished career as a Falmouth Police Officer, a role he fulfilled with dedication for more than 32 years until his retirement in 2009. During his service, Tom developed a profound understanding of the town, its people, and its history, which he now brings to life through his engaging and informative walking tours. These tours have become a cornerstone of our programming, delighting thousands of visitors over the years, including leading our annual Wicked at Wicks Children's Halloween Parade as Captain Warren Nye Bourne.
- In addition to his professional and volunteer accomplishments, Tom is a respected figure in the Falmouth community. His passion for preserving the town's rich history, combined with his ability to connect with people, makes him an exceptional candidate for our Board.



New Slate of Officers Election

- Ann Stone, President
- Judy Durham, Vice President
- Robert G. Ripley, Jr. for Continuing as Treasurer
- Carolyn Tarr for Continuing as Secretary



Looking Ahead with Incoming Board Chair Ann Stone



Financial Review Year over Year 2024/ 2023



Provided by Bob Ripley

- Balance Sheet - The museum's cash balances ended the year up 35%
- The museum's investment portfolio is up 4.52% net of \$40k annual draw.
- Payroll tax liability – Paid off in full 2024. Have filed for IRS rebate
- Donations up 27% for the year.
- Grants continue to increase thanks to Rachel and her team's work.
- CY24 Operating Results:
 - Total income up 7.47%
 - Revenue \$34k (9.4%) over 2024 Budget
 - Expenses in-line with 2024 Budget.
 - Insurance continues to be the large operating expense. For 2025 Rachel was able to secure renewal policy with another company that will save money going forward. For CY24 however, policy had to be paid up front which is noted on the Profit and Loss Schedule.

Falmouth Historical Society, Inc.

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Total			
	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Dec 31, 2023 (PY)	Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Total Bank Accounts	221,530.24	164,070.48	57,459.76	35.02%
Total Other Current Assets	3,430.00	50.00	3,380.00	6760.00%
Total Current Assets	224,960.24	164,120.48	60,839.76	37.07%
Total Fixed Assets	2,282,384.55	2,276,811.05	5,573.50	0.24%
Other Assets				
Cape Cod 5-Investment	842,010.13	805,618.45	36,391.68	4.52%
Total Other Assets	842,010.13	805,618.45	36,391.68	4.52%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,349,355	\$ 3,246,550	\$ 102,805	3.17%
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Total Liabilities	1,649.14	28,897.85	-27,248.71	-94.29%
Total Equity	3,347,705.78	3,217,652.13	130,053.65	4.04%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 3,349,355	\$ 3,246,550	\$ 102,805	3.17%

Falmouth Historical Society, Inc.

Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	Total			
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change	% Change
Income				
Admission		3,125	-3,125	-100.00%
Capital Campaign Donation	11,068		11,068	
Donation	156,140	122,787	33,353	27.16%
Total Event Income	10,029.47	18,620.05	-8,590.58	-46.14%
Gift Shop Sales	3,817	5,132	-1,316	-25.64%
Grants/Donations - Temporary Restricted	8,590	26,000	-17,410	-66.96%
Grants/Donations - Unrestricted	113,700	91,000	22,700	24.95%
Howard Fund		23,612	-23,612	-100.00%
Interest-Checking	24	10	14	131.13%
Total Lectures/Virtual Talks & Events	8,312.00	5,354.80	2,957.20	55.23%
Membership Dues	29,740	22,465	7,275	32.38%
Miscellaneous Income	555		555	
Rental Income	20,115	12,725	7,390	58.07%
Royalty		218	-218	-100.00%
Smythe Fund	24,261	24,995	-734	-2.94%
Sponsorship	8,750	9,850	-1,100	-11.17%
Spritsail	850	805	45	5.59%
Walking Tours	25	1,762	-1,737	-98.58%
Total Income	\$ 395,977	\$ 368,462	\$ 27,515	7.47%

*Admission was free this year and offset by sponsor

Expenses				
Total Administration	197,244.98	177,893.93	19,351.05	10.88%
Total Advertising & Marketing	6,014.21	4,173.39	1,840.82	44.11%
Total Buildings & Grounds	20,755.83	16,868.42	3,887.41	23.05%
Capital Campaign	5,000.00		5,000.00	
Total Curatorial	19,274.19	2,421.29	16,852.90	696.03%
Total Development	1,598.67	0.00	1,598.67	
Total Event Expense	9,543.45	12,366.67	-2,823.22	-22.83%
Total Insurance	47,453.85	24,556.30	22,897.55	93.25%
Interest & Penalties	1,946.82	356.33	1,590.49	446.35%
Legal & Accounting Fees	3,600.00	3,570.00	30.00	0.84%
Total Membership Expense	1,190.00	1,215.40	-25.40	-2.09%
Print Materials	178.00	246.75	-68.75	-27.86%
Total Program Expense	5,482.43	1,388.90	4,093.53	294.73%
Total Technology	3,616.45	6,687.86	-3,071.41	-45.93%
Total Utilities	18,659.93	18,015.09	644.84	3.58%
Total Expenses	\$ 342,881	\$ 272,006	\$ 70,875	26.06%
Net Income	\$ 53,097	\$ 96,456	-\$ 43,359	-44.95%

Museums on the Green Operating Budget

	2025 EC Approved Budget
REVENUE:	
Admission	-
Donation-Appeal	175,000.00
Endowment Draw	40,000.00
Gift Shop Sales	5,000.00
Grants-Temporary Restricted	20,000.00
Grants-Unrestricted	40,000.00
Heritage Dinner	5,000.00
Programs & Walking Tours	10,000.00
Membership Dues	21,000.00
Rental Income	20,000.00
Smythe Fund	23,000.00
Sponsorship	12,000.00
Spritsail	500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	371,500.00

EXPENSES:

Gift Shop Merchandise	2,000.00	Insurance - Workers Compensation	375.00
Advertising & Marketing	5,000.00	Insurance - D&O	1,300.00
Printing	1,000.00	Insurance - Property	20,000.00
Post Office/Safe Deposit Boxes	350.00	Sprintsail	625.00
Payroll Taxes	18,552.99	Legal & Accounting	4,000.00
Salaries	206,820.00	Holiday Decorations	350.00
Bonus	5,000.00	Copier-Repair/Maint/Support	500.00
Employee Benefits Plans	12,474.60	Square	500.00
PFML Employee Reimbursement	350.00	Hardware & Software	2,000.00
Retirement Plan Admin Fees	1,000.00	Little Green Light	1,000.00
Staff Development	1,500.00	Computer-Repair/Maint/Support	1,500.00
Donor Development	2,000.00	Constant Contact	600.00
Service Charge/Fee/Filing	200.00	Technology - Website Hosting	3,500.00
Merchant Credit Card Fee	1,000.00	Utilities - Electric	12,000.00
PayPal Fee	500.00	Utilities - Gas	5,000.00
Postage/Shipping	2,000.00	Technology - Internet & Telephone	2,500.00
Office Supplies	5,000.00	Utilities - Water	750.00
Payroll Fee	600.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	354,847.59
Dues/Subscriptions	1,000.00		
Alarm/Fire Systems	3,500.00		
Trash & Pest Control	2,000.00		
Landscaping/Snow Removal	5,000.00		
Building Repair & Maintenance	3,000.00		
Archives-Conservation	1,000.00		
Exhibits	5,000.00		
Poetry Fest	1,000.00		
Event Expenses	5,000.00		
Heritage Dinner	5,000.00	NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	16,652.41
Insurance - General Liability	1,500.00		

Rachel Lovett, Executive Director

The background image is a painting depicting a man in a wide-brimmed hat and a dark vest over a light shirt, holding a paintbrush and palette, as if he is painting a stone wall. In the background, there is a classical building with a portico and a sphinx. The scene is set outdoors with lush green trees.

FIX THE WICKS.

Preserving the Jewel of
Falmouth Green

HELP REVIVE OUR PAST.

•Fix Wicks Campaign:

- Capital campaign is underway
- Community Preservation Funds application for \$107,000 for Phase III of the Wicks House restoration will have final decision at April town meeting.
- Restoration work includes wallpaper restoration, HVAC installation, and structural repairs to attic, basement, and second-story portico, as well securing funds for future sustainability and public education programs.

Education and Collections Manager Hired

- In October, Donna Garcia joined the Falmouth Historical Society as Education and Collections Manager. Ms. Garcia also serves in the same role with Friends of Nobska Inc., fostering meaningful collaboration between the organizations. Her hiring underscores the museum's steadfast commitment to education and preservation, advancing our mission to engage the community with Falmouth's rich history.

- **Key Acquisitions:**

- 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.

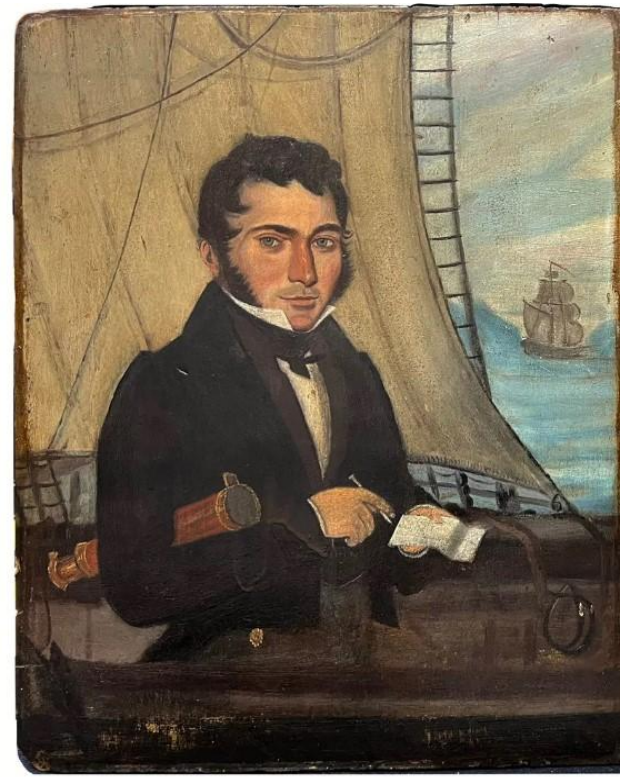
- The museum also received a significant donation of a harpoon crafted in the shop of James D. Driggs (1820-1903) who was born in Quissett. The item was on loan since 2001, and was recently donated by Douglas Correllus of East Falmouth.

- **Programming Highlights:**

- Hosted 51 mission-focused programs in 2024, bringing history to life for the community.

- Launched Fix Wicks campaign to restore the Dr. Francis Wicks House in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary.

- Participated in the town's 250th Committee, with upcoming collaborative events for the celebrations.



Harpoon, c1860

- **Looking Ahead to 2025:**
- Major exhibition planned:
 - *Falmouth's Role in the American Revolution* (Cultural Center, opening June).
- Restoration work in the Wicks House scheduled for May; docent training and seasonal opening planned for June.
- **2025 Programs and Events**
- We are excited to present a dynamic and full calendar of programs for 2025, designed to engage, educate, and inspire our community. Highlights include a variety of educational initiatives, thought-provoking lectures, and enriching field trips that will immerse participants in Falmouth's rich history.



Closing Remarks from Ann Stone & Adjournment for Coffee Hour

