

## PISCATAQUA PIONEERS

### Annual Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2025

The 121<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Piscataqua Pioneers was held at the St. James Masonic Hall in Hampton, NH and was convened at 10:03 by President, Ed Batchelder. A quorum of at least 25 members were present. Nancy Spencer-Smith, Chaplin, gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mission Statement and Objectives of the Pioneers were read by Wendy Renda.

The 2024 Annual Meeting minutes as written by Secretary, Beverly Mutrie, were accepted upon a motion by Betsey Cox-Buteau, seconded by Jim Twombly. The Treasurer, Betsey Cox-Buteau, explained her Treasurer's Report, stating that we ended the previous fiscal year with \$153. The 5% CD's interest of \$788 greatly contributed. The largest expense was \$3771 for last year's annual meeting. The Council will discuss further savings besides the closing the Hauch Storage unit and using a free website on Google drive. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was heard from Ed Batchelder, seconded by Allan Moulton and the motion passed.

Wendy Blood, Registrar, reported that we had 5 new members voted in at last year's annual meeting, with 22 (mostly supplementary) memberships accepted at the Council's Spring meeting. Five new supplementary memberships (#s 1891.20-.24) from Steven Beverage, three supplementary memberships (#1919.5-.7) from Rev. Michael Denney, and one new membership from Rose Anderson Linfoot (#1941) were approved upon a motion by Ed Batchelder, a second from Beverly Mutrie. There are 29 applications still needing completion.

The Curator's report will be in the fall Newsletter. Beverly Mutrie reported for the Chaplain that there were 3 deaths for the past year. These were #986: Margaret Bayles, #1252: Ursula Kilner, and #859: Louis Huggins. Also, the death of Past President and Treasurer, Robert Dennett, was later mentioned as having passed this year. The report was accepted upon a motion by Betsy Cox-Buteau, seconded by Ed Batchelder.

Allan Moulton, Database Manager, reported that he keeps track of every member since the founding with a high percentage of deceased members which is getting more difficult to determine. There are 1946 records with 8 new changes of addresses, 3 changes to Life Membership, 7 members with mail returned, and one change to email. There were 31 new members or supplementary members to record. Members using email for the receipt of the Newsletter should be encouraged. Ed Batchelder will contact the Chadbourne Association with an invitation to join us. Betsey Cox-Buteau made the motion to accept the report, Tylene Jousse, seconded her motion and all voted affirmatively.

The amended slate of incoming Officers proposed by Ed Batchelder is Wendy Renda for President; James Twombly, Jack Manning (*nominated from the floor*), Arlene Quimby and Pat Karakashian, Vice Presidents; Beverly Mutrie, Secretary; Ed Batchelder, Database Manager; Michael Denney, Curator; and Carol Palmer, Auditor. A motion to approve the slate was made by Wendy Renda, seconded by James Twombly and all voted 'Aye'.

A change to the Bylaws' Article IV Section 1 to eliminate the temporary terms and the Officers at Large was made by Betsy Cox-Buteau, seconded by Ed Batchelder. A count of the members voting 'Aye' was unanimous thus passing.

Wendy Blood recognized Alan Moulton who is retiring as Database Manager and Ed Batchelder for ending another term as President with tokens of our appreciation. She also stated that Ed traveled the furthest to attend, Steven Beveridge had the most supplementary memberships (25) and Fred Boyle was the member with the most longevity. Milo Hand, now age 3, received a 'Bluey' stuffy for becoming the youngest member at 2. Congratulations all!

Tylene Jousse reported that there will be a workshop for genealogy at the Portsmouth Public Library on October 19 and it is hoped that members could attend. It was suggested that the Council could move their meeting to the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Ed Batchelder opened the floor to the membership to talk about family stories, challenges and queries. Quite a few members were here to learn more about their Scottish Prisoner ancestors from Ginny Argeros's talk after a picnic style lunch.

After a very interesting talk and questions about the Scottish Prisoners, (*thank you Ginny*) the swearing in of the new officers by Past President, Fred Boyle occurred. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55pm upon a motion by Betsey Cox-Buteau, seconded by Beverly Mutrie and all agreed.

*Beverly Mutrie, Secretary*