

Denmark Historical Society  
Secretary's Report for DHL Annual Meeting  
June 26, 2021

This secretary's report covers two years' worth of activities, due to the far-reaching effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The annual meeting which should have been held in June 2020, was abandoned as unworkable because of the lock-down in the State of Maine. The essential business of electing board members and officers for DHS was handled through mail-in ballots distributed to our membership. Since the mask mandates and social distancing restrictions are easing, as vaccination rates are reaching safe levels, the regularly scheduled June 2021 annual meeting is being held in-person at the library, but no program will be offered and attendance is anticipated to be low.

Despite the multiple challenges and complications cause by the pandemic, since the last annual meeting in June 2019, the Denmark Historical Society has accomplished a great deal:

Formalized relationship with DPL through a Memorandum of Understanding

Developed an Authors Series with cooperation of DAC, DPL, and DHS, which began with Thomas Hubka's, [Big House](#), [Little House](#), [Back House](#), [Barn](#), and has continued with a ZOOM presentation between Christina Baker Kline and Monica Wood. More are scheduled.

Software and hardware have been purchased, replaced, and upgraded. This includes a new projector, Adobe Acrobat, a replacement scanner, etc...

Volunteers have been busy tidying up archives after the digitization process. Volunteers have been very important to this effort.

The Eugenia Parker films have been found and have been edited (thanks to Charles Linden). They will be presented to the public once the Pandemic is over.

Two new board members have been added: Linda Whiting and Mark Ragsdale.

Restoration of a donated sleigh.

A presence on social media has been established. A Facebook page has been created and the two websites are being maintained and accessed.

Linda Whiting has been chosen to fill the newly created position of programming coordinator. Possible programs for the future include Janet Conner speaking about hooked rugs, and Jeff Burchstead speaking on sheep and sheep shearing.

Money has been approved for hiring paid interns, but the position(s) have gone unfilled.

With the cooperation of the Penobscot Maritime Museum and Jim Bobs General Store, postcards were selected from the DHS collection and copies of which are on sale at JGS.

A potential book project or series of papers is in the works, which will enhance and further the topics covered in Denmark: Past and Present (the rights to which book have been generously donated to DHS by the last, surviving author).

Exploring the possibility of offering high-resolution copies of photographs from the DHS collection for sale as a fundraiser.

Photographed Denmark veterans, as individuals and as a group.

Updates to the by-laws have been made and others contemplated in relation to Pandemic challenges.

Documentation of how Denmark organizations have handled the pandemic has been attempted.

A shared program with Hiram Historical Society was considered.

Much more could have been accomplished had the pandemic not been so disruptive. Restrictions on travel and in-person meetings forced the DHS board members to improvise. The April 2020 meeting was held through e-mail communication and the monthly meetings from May 2020 through April 2021 were held via ZOOM. Although this allowed five of the DHS board members to meet regularly, two were kept from the meetings due to technical barriers, and three of the board members did not avail themselves of the technology. Since restrictions have eased, the May 2021 meeting was held as a combination in-person and ZOOM meeting. It is hoped that the full board can resume normal activities in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Astrea Fatica

Secretary, DHS