

## Minutes of the July, 29, 2014 Annual Meeting of the Plainfield Historical Society

### Shaw Hudson House

5:30 - 7:00 - A small reception was held at the Shaw Hudson House prior to the annual meeting. At 5:30pm approximately 20 people, gathered at the Shaw Hudson House and were treated to refreshments and a tour by Bill Hosley. Guest were from local historical societies, as well as from UMASS, Sturbridge Village, UCONN, and other western Massachusetts historical venues.

### Plainfield Town Hall

7:00 - President Judy Williams called the meeting to order and dues were collected - there were approximately 50 people present. Judy gave some background information on the guest speaker Rachel Hope Cleves and her book *Charity and Sylvia: A Same-Sex Marriage in Early America*, which discusses the relationship - through letters - between Cummington's Charity Bryant and Plainfield's Lydia Richards. Rachael then gave some background information on her research for the book and on the people involved in the book and then proceeded to read excerpts from her book. A lively question and answer period followed. Guests then moved downstairs for refreshments and Rachael sold and signed copies of her book.

8:30 - The business meeting of the Plainfield Historical Society was called to order by President Judy Williams.

- Judy gave a President's report of the work that has been done over the last year and the PHS's vision for the future..
- Treasurer's Report - a brief report was sent in by Linda O'Dea and read by Judy - who gave a brief explanation of the accounts currently held by the PHS.
- Curator's Report - Pleun discussed the current status of the PHS's archives and the recent grants and meeting with Rachael Onuf from the SHRAB program. She handed out copies of the [PHS's Collection Policy](#) and PHS's [Collection Preservation and Management Policy](#) which will both be posted on the PHS's Website.
- After some technical difficulties, due to internet service or lack thereof, Lori read last month's minutes. After a brief discussion the minutes were accepted as read. Lori also mention the PHS website and invited members to check it out.
- Elaine Sidney, head of the nominating committee gave a brief explanation of the nomination process and criteria and then proceeded to add a new nomination for trustee - Martha J. Lynch - who was not on the previous slate. Voted unanimously to add Martha to the slate of nominees for trustee. Elaine read letter from both Martha and Rebecca Mlynarczyk, expressing their desire to serve as trustees. She then

proceeded to nominate and a vote was held and the following officers were elected unanimously:

- Judy Williams as president
- Dario Coletta as vice-president
- Lori Austin as secretary
- Bettie Briggs as treasurer
- Pleun Bouricius as curator

and the nominees for trustees are as followed

- Rich Potter
- Elaine Sidney
- Rebecca Mlynarczyk
- Martha J. Lynch
- Allen Irvine

Ed Kohn voiced his appreciation for the year's of service to the PHS by both Linda and Jack O'Dea and it was voted by all to recognize their service over the years. Secretary will send a thank you note to the O'Dea's. She also will include Rebecca and Martha on the PHS's email group.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at the Shaw Memorial Library  
Below are photographs from the events.

















