

Cherryfield Narraguagus Historical Society
August 20, 2026

Those in attendance: Crystal Hitchings, Rick Harter, Kelley Wescott, Sarah LaSagna and Denise Lavoie. Meeting Place: Congregational Church Time: 6:00 PM

The July minutes were approved.

Denise gave the financial report. As of the meeting there is \$6200 left in checking. Per a discussion she had with Maine Community Foundation, the historical society has \$166,435 dollars in the endowment. They recommend that during our transition we don't go below \$145,000. Leaving \$21,000 for the transition. Kelley has suggested a \$4300 lease at the Academy, per year, based on \$7.50 per square foot of space (approximately 575). All attending felt that amount was fair. Denise suggested we keep at least \$3000 available in the checkbook to cover insurance and utility costs until the house is sold.

Sarah and Crystal discussed possibly getting an article in the Bangor Daily News regarding the sale of the house. Denise suggested checking with Maine Historic Preservation to see what programs they have for buyers looking for historic homes.

The basement of the Legion Hall needs to be assessed. Rick thought we might need to seal the concrete and possibly spray foam the walls. It was suggested we take a look at it when we meet with the Academy on the 25th.

Kelley recommended we start our lease with the Academy on October 1st, which would allow time to get some things moved in before winter. Everyone agreed to that date. We also discussed the ramp, the society has agreed to pay for at the Academy, that will allow the historical society to lock their space when no-one is there. Cory Dalton is working on a quote.

The memorial garden will be moved to the Academy lawn this fall.

The group voted unanimously to refund Mary Knapp Young the \$2500 she invested in the second floor construction at the museum as it was done as a dedication to Kathy Upton. Since the house is being sold, the intent of the gift can no longer be fulfilled at that location.

Sarah discussed her progress on Shiverwalk. Half of the stations are completed. It will be held two days: October 30th from 4 to 8 pm and October 31st from 2 to 8PM. At this point the cost to put on the event is \$723.00.

Everyone attending unanimously approved Sarah purchasing historical society cups to give out as gifts at the members gathering scheduled for August 27th at the museum.

There was some discussion of contacting the high school for volunteers to help with Shiverwalk. Denise was going to look into it. Crystal and Sarah also mentioned a possible press release with the Machias Valley newspaper.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kelley and seconded by Crystal at 7:15 PM.