

Agenda
2021 Annual Meeting
Wilton Historical Society
June 15, 2021 5:30 pm

1. Welcome - Janet Foster
2. Minutes 9/2020 Annual Meeting* - Meaghan Donovan
3. Financials - Greg Rodiger
4. Nominating-Election of Officers and Trustees* -
Virginia Gunther

5. Committee Reports:
 - a. Artisan Show Online, 2020 - Judy Higby
 - b. Buildings and Grounds - Lee Wilson
 - c. Collections - Sue Sherwood, Catherine Romer
 - d. Education - Dottie Jankowski
 - e. Historic Preservation - Gini Benin
 - f. Objects of Desire: Then + Now, 2020 - Janet Foster
 - g. Objects of Desire: 3 Ways to Enjoy, 2021 - Nancy Perez
 - h. Co-Directors' - Kim Mellin and Allison Sanders

6. Volunteers of the Year Awards - Dottie Jankowski
7. Closing Comments - Janet Foster

*Requires vote by members

**CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
WILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

June 15, 2021

For the purpose of electing Officers and Trustees and a brief Business Meeting

The Nominating Committee respectfully submits the following proposed slate of candidates for the Officers and Trustees of the Society to be elected at the Annual Meeting, per Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 and Article V, Section 6

Officers and Trustees to be elected are in Bold

Officers Continuing:

President – Janet Foster
1st Vice President – Nancy Perez
Vice President Finance – Gregory Rodiger
Co-Vice Presidents Building & Grounds – Karl Dolnier & Lee Wilson
Co-Vice Presidents Collection Management – Catherine Romer & Sue Sherwood
Vice President Development – Hal Higby
Vice President Education and Volunteers – Dottie Jankowski
Vice President Historic Preservation – Gini Benin
Secretary – Meaghan Donovan

Trustees Nominated: (3 year term ending in 2024)

CLASS of 2021 – 2024

Dick Dubow Ceci Maher John Reznikoff Karen Tartell

Trustees Continuing:

CLASS of 2020 – 2023

Kevin Crow Bill Earls Michael Gordon
David Clune, Sr. Ann Duffy Debbie Fink Mary Gail Gristina

CLASS of 2019 - 2022

Bill Brennan Peter Gaboriault Virginia Gunther Donna Harakas
John Kalamarides Chris Lavin Katy Williams

**Our thanks to the following Trustees who have completed their terms:
Heather Bower, Martin Hamar, Andrea McLaughlin**

Nominating Committee: Virginia Gunther; Chair, Heather Bower, David Clune,
Max Gabrielson, Steve Hudspeth, Dottie Jankowski

Wilton Historical Society
Annual Meeting Zoom
September 21, 2020

Welcome: Janet Foster - Welcome to all - the delayed Annual Meeting - I'm sure we all miss the potato salad!! Staff has done a great job keeping us relevant and into the 21st Century. We had a few losses this year, one being Terry Goodwin, a great friend of the Society as well as Daisy Smith.

By-Laws: Janet made a motion to accept the changes in By-laws - specific to allowing alternate date of the Annual Meeting & electronic voting. Karen Tartell 2nd the motion - unanimously passed.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from June 2019 Annual Meeting. Meaghan 2nd the motion, unanimously passed.

Financials: Greg Rodiger

Income was strong as this was assisted by our rental income and the expenses were reduced across the board. Slide was shown regarding revenue over the past five years 2015-2020. Programming was strong and we really need support for future virtual programs. We are heavily dependent on our real estate portfolio. Museum Operations take on a bulk of expenses. We qualified for the CT Neighborhood Assistance Act, helping with tax breaks for several local corporations. They used this tax break to help the Society. Year to Date, our Endowment is up 7 ½ % and we are up 11% Annually. At this time, we have planned for the worst, but hope to see things getting better. Janet commented that a concerning trend is that several non-profits have seen their revenue decrease, we are doing everything we can to make things better.

Preservation: Allison Sanders/Gini Benin

A key element in the Society is Historical Preservation. One new initiative we are taking is to have an Annual Historic Preservation Award that will shine a light on the town and people that helped in this effort. We have created the "Julian A. Gregory Sr. Award" and are proud to have Robert Faesy as the first recipient. We are hoping to celebrate Bob and congratulate him at an event in 2021.

Gini will defer to Allison - The Historic Preservation committee follows all development in Wilton, especially on Route 7 and are mindful of these projects. Our talk along with Planning and Zoning will hopefully take place at a later date. Margaret Gregory is well aware of the preservation award and that it has been moved to 2021.

AAS - Judy Higby

This year it will be a horse of a different color - we are changing the approach in 2020. We will have 12-15 artisans that will participate in a virtual show and sell approximately 7-10 items. The sale will run from 11/5/20 - 12/5/20 and we will receive 20% commission of the artisans sales. There will not be a preview party this year.

OOD - Gregg Chann

This fall virtual event is going to be lots of fun! Anthony Barratta is fabulous and his love of color and home restoration is a perfect fit for this event. Janet has had a great response to those friends/family that she has emailed about this virtual event. For some ticket levels, Anthony's book will be mailed to their home.

Buildings/Grounds - KevinCraw and Lee Wilson

Some questions have been brought up about quality of air at the rental properties, Rich is working with our tenants. Lee has reached out to all the tenants, we have some renewals as we enter 2021. It is our hope to see if the Orem's Barn can be repurposed and used at the Cannondale site. Thank you to Lee for all that he has done for the Society during covid and working tirelessly with our tenants.

Education - Dottie Jankowski

We were having a wonderful year of programs until Covid shut the doors. Over 600 students came through the doors pre-covid for field trips and Saturday programs at the Society. The programs expanded beyond Wilton and had some schools in Redding interested. We strive to make sure our programs have great content. We also held our 1st volunteer luncheon - thanks to all the volunteers for your help!

Executive Directors: Allison Sanders and Kim Melin

Kim - Booked for Lunch - with covid hitting in March, it allowed this program to skyrocket in attendance. Over 3,000 visitors came through the Society for the Train Show. While we are not hosting the trains this year, we will do online programming around the event, and hold a Virtual puppet show. We had great success with Ghost Night, Valentine Chocolate, Election Day Scavenger hunt, and all the programming we did with Star Inc. Successful events were held with the Library lecture series, Dave Brubeck Exhibit, and Women in Jazz lecture series. Thank you to Charles Schwab and the Wilton Bulletin for Sponsoring. Thank you to Bob Russell for the great tours throughout Wilton. We sent out a Covid survey to some of the students that we plan to keep in collections as well as some drawings from the elementary students. We are also collecting covid related items to keep within Collections. Dalton DeCamillo received the Historical Society award, he is a wonderful student intern and is so very dedicated to the Society. The Society is very involved with the content for equality and are excited to be included in this upcoming capacity with the Wilton Public Schools.

Allison - CT Tax credit program was successful. Congrats to Rich for managing the Betts roof project. We have applied for and received the PPP loan that has helped tremendously with operational costs, specific to salary at the Society. Thank you to Julie Hughes for all her help filming from the grant received by Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust. Dave Brubeck exhibit will remain at the Society. Again, a huge thank you to Nick Foster for all his help doing 5 minute videos that went online during Covid. We are collaborating on events with the Library, Wilton Land Trust, Ambler Farm, Wilton Woman's Club. Hoping for successful events in 2021.

Nominating: Bill Brennan read the Committee. Nancy Perez is 1st VP - Bill made a motion to accept, Karen Tartell 2nd that motion. Unanimous vote to approve. Motion made by Bill to accept the Class of Trustees for 2022 Class - Bill Earls, Debbie Fink, and Michael Gordon, Karen Tartell 2nd the motion. Unanimous vote to approve. Welcome new members - Bill Earls and Michael Gordon thanked the group.

Adjournment: *Minutes recorded by Meaghan Donovan