

Warner Free Lecture Trustees Meeting
Wednesday June 30th, 2021
Via Zoom Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's Order
(currently amended to allow in person or Zoom meeting)

Trustees present: Lisa Foley (Chair)(publicity), Pat Jennings (Treasurer), Sheila Simollardes (Events), Steve Peisch, Billy Salter, and Alison Thornton (Secretary).

Also present: Representative from Harvard Historical Society Doug Cregar

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Discuss sponsorship with Harvard Historical Society for October program:

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential partnership with Harvard Historical Society for upcoming fall events. Discussion revolved around potential crossover of HHS presenter Joe Theriault and WFL presenter David Vermette. The HHS event will occur on Oct 8th and will cover the L'Acadian history in Nova Scotia and Harvard and Lancaster, focusing on genealogy, history and expulsion of French-Canadian families out of Lancaster and moving in of Lutheran families. The WFL event will occur on Oct 22nd and David Vermette's discussion will be based on his book A Distinct Alien Race, the Untold Story of Franco-Americans, Industrialization, Immigration, Religious Strife.

Both presenters address the tribulations undergone by these groups. Discussion of recent news of Canadian atrocities towards indigenous peoples raised question whether we should address this, at least to tell audience that these talks would not be about that. Perhaps a future presenter will address this issue. Marketing for events should make it clear about the planned topic. Q &A may be a way for audience to ask questions about this which will allow the speaker to address the treatment of indigenous peoples.

It was agreed that the two presentations do complement each other. The decision was reached to co-present a two-part series. The HHS and WFL will share the cost of joint advertisement in the Harvard Press to market the series. This marketing will be in addition to the annual slate of programs advertisements that WFL puts out about our upcoming schedule of 5 programs. Lisa will draft an advertisement. Lisa will share with Doug at HHS and then offer for review at the next WFL meeting. It will be submitted for publication the week following the first WFL presentation which occurs on Sept 24th. The hope is that Carlene Phillips will be willing and able to create an article for the Press, based on interviews with both Joe Theriault and David Vermette. Carlene's article should come out a week in advance of event on October 8 and our ad should come out the week of October 18.

Discussion of Silver Unicorn as a way to advertise and offer for sale David Vermette's book. Sheila will follow up on this with Paul Swiddon, at the Silver Unicorn. WFL speaker is \$500, HHS speaker is free. Cost of co-sponsorship is that we will split the advertisement fee for the 2-part series. Additional publicity will be through traditional channels of reaching out to public.

Doug will send information to Pat about Joe. Lisa will reach out to David for information on his book and to tell him about Joe and the plan for a 2-part series.

Discussion moved to snacks and the exciting things that Sheila will come up with for us to provide. We will not be using recipes from 1751.

Other Business:

Alison asked Pat if she had heard from Eric Jay Dolin (September 24th presenter) about an invoice. She has and will submit it to the town. Alison reported to Steve that Eric is willing to speak to a reporter from the Press. He does have a book (A Furious Sky: The Five Hundred Year History of America's Hurricanes) that could also be marketed through the Silver Unicorn.

Timing of in-person events: Events will begin at 7:30pm. Speaker should come 45-60 minutes prior to do a sound audio visual set up and make sure things work.

HHS is also going to change their start time for presentations to 7:30 to coincide with ours.

Next meeting Monday Sept 13th at 6:00pm.

6:54pm Steve, Bill and Doug left the meeting,

Lisa Moved to adjourn the meeting. Sheila seconded the motion. Vote passed by unanimously by remaining members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Thornton (Secretary)