



Lawrence History Center  
**46th Annual Meeting and Open House**  
September 28, 2024  
10:00 AM –10:30 AM  
Hybrid (In-person and on Zoom)

## MINUTES

### Welcome & Introductions

Sara Morin, President

Sara called the meeting that took place in the Essex Company Stable to order at 10:05 AM. She welcomed guests and our Zoom participants, and thanked LHC board, staff, and volunteers for their efforts across the last year.

### I. Business Meeting

A. Call to Order

Sara Morin

B. Secretary's Report

Sara Morin (for Karen Van Welden-Herman, Secretary)

a. Approval of the Minutes, September 23, 2023

*The minutes from the meeting on September 23, 2023 were unanimously approved, with no opposition.*

C. Approval of FY2024 Treasurer's Report

Susan Grabski, Executive Director (for Mark Svendsen, Treasurer)

Susan presented the FY2024 Treasurer's Report for acceptance. His overview included a summary of our revenue and other support, in addition to our expenses and investment account balance.

*The FY2024 Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved, with no opposition.*

D. Report from Nominating Committee

Sara Morin (for Andy Kelley, VP)

Sara presented the following Board Slate of Candidates, 2024-2025. She thanked Mark Svendsen for agreeing to a new term as treasurer, and Ellan Spero and Brian Sheehy for accepting new three-year terms. and introduced one new nominated board member, Chuck Brain:

Renewing Officer(s):

Mark Svendsen, Treasurer, 2024-2027 (1st Term)

Renewing Director Position(s):

Ellan Spero, 2024-2027 (2nd Term)

Brian Sheehy, 2024-2027 (2nd Term)

New Board Director(s):

Chuck Brain, 2024-2027 (1st term)

- a. Approval of Board Slate
  - i. Call for nominations

Hearing no new nominations, the LHC Board Slate for 2024-2025 was unanimously approved, with no opposition.

- o Recognition of Outgoing Board Officers and Directors  
After Board Slate's acceptance by the membership, Sara also thanked outgoing board members Kathleen Curry and Ellen Minzner. Ellen was present and shared some remarks.

E. Adjourn

Sara extended his sincere gratitude to the board, staff, and volunteers for all their hard work in getting LHC to its 46<sup>th</sup> year so successfully.

Adjournment was unanimously approved, with no opposition

**II. Collection Manager Update**

Amita Kiley

Amita and thanked our staff, board, volunteers and interns for their help and shared some insights about our collection activity.

**III. FY2024 Director's Report**

Susan Grabski

Susan thanked the LHC Board of Directors for the generosity and talent, the LHC staff and volunteers, as well as all those who supported the operations and programs of the History Center throughout its 46th year. She highlighted major accomplishments of the organization from the *LHC Annual Report, 2023 | 2024* (<https://lawrencehistory.org/annualreport/fy2024>).

Susan also shared the short film, *Love Letters to Lawrence*, created by Mass Humanities to mark their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and debuted at their Governor's Award Ceremony at JFK Library in Boston on September 26, 2024.

We thank our membership for their ongoing support and look forward to another great year in 2025!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Grabski for Karen Van Welden-Herman, LHC Board Secretary

**The following presentations also took place during the day:**

**White Fund Lecture:**

**"No Avenging Gibbett": The 1860 Pemberton Mill Collapse**

**Robert Forrant**

**History Department, University of Massachusetts Lowell**

The event may be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/1015808007>

**Blacksmithing Saturday at the Essex Company Forge**

Demonstration by Richard Wright