

STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 10, 2015

The Board convened at 1:09 p.m. in the conference room of the NH State Archives, located on Fruit Street in Concord. In attendance were members Brian N. Burford, Mark Stevens, Anne Packard and Paul Bergeron. Members Rodney Obien, Linda Upham-Bornstein, Richard Winslow, and Sally Fellows were absent and excused.

State Archivist, Brian Burford, asked Mark Stevens to take the minutes of the meeting as recording secretary, Sally Fellows was not in attendance.

There were two items to be addressed on the agenda, the first being the approval of the minutes from the May 14, 2014 meeting. Motion was made by Mark Stevens and seconded by Paul Bergeron to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The second item on the agenda was the review, consideration, and critique of an application from the New Hampshire Historical Society to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, for possible grant money. If approved by the NHP&RC this grant money would then be used to digitize original documents pertaining to the life and administration of President Franklin Pierce; and to then make these electronic records available for use by the general public.

The strengths and weaknesses of this application were discussed. Several SHRAB members that were not in attendance had submitted comments in writing in advance which were reviewed. Although the Board felt that this was a strong and worthwhile application, concerns of the Board included, (in no particular order):

- Use of volunteers to do much of the digitizing work. (Experience, qualification, skill level, incentive, motivation, consistency, training, and management oversight, etc.)
- Proposal includes use of the *New Hampshire History Network* as an on-line source for making these transcribed records available to the public. The availability, status, and functionality of this network are unknown.
- Use of the term, "...well known Antebellum figure..." might need further clarification.
- Consistency in scanning equipment, quality, technique, and minimum acceptable standards amongst the various other institutions contributing material for this project.
- Opportunity for other sources of material or newly discovered material to be added into this project.

There being no other business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Paul Bergeron and seconded by Anne Packard and all voted in the affirmative. Meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark C. Stevens