

Stearns Burton Lecture Fund

Background

The Stearns Burton Lecture Fund was established by Captain Albert Stearns in 1899 to annually “provide a course of non-sectarian, free lectures” which would be “instructive... to the inhabitants of [New Ipswich]” . In 1937, Frances Rebecca Jones Burton added to the Fund. The distribution of money is determined by interest income earned the previous year on the fund's principle and the number of applicants seeking sponsorship.

The Stearns Burton committee is actively seeking programs to sponsor, and it encourages community members to share ideas for lectures that will benefit town residents. The committee reserves the right to limit the number of requests for sponsorship; however, multiple requests from the same organization are gladly considered based on the money available for distribution. The committee will meet quarterly to decide upon requests for funds. Early application increases the likelihood of acceptance. Applications are accepted year-round.

Specifics

Funds are limited strictly to New Ipswich groups and organizations, and events must be OPEN TO ALL residents. Programs should be instructive rather than purely entertaining. (“Entertainment” should have another purpose - as in a lesson or relying historical or scientific knowledge.)

No admission fee may be charged for an event sponsored by the Fund. The event should take place in a venue that allows public access.

Applications must be received no later than 4 weeks before the planned event and preferably by our quarterly meeting (March, June, September, December) for the following quarter. They may be given to a committee member or mailed to: The Stearns Burton Fund New Ipswich Town Office 661 Turnpike Road New Ipswich NH 03071

To recognize and honor the Benefactors of the Fund, the committee requests that advertisements and promotional material (press releases, posters, flyers, etc.) for events prominently acknowledge the Stearns Burton Fund as sponsor. Advertising is the responsibility of the petitioner, not the SB Lecture Fund. Other costs (Hall rental, janitorial fees) may be included in the request for funds (and a separate check will be issued accordingly.)

No sponsored events should be scheduled to conflict with another Stearns Burton program.

Checks are issued to the presenter, approved by the Trustees of the Trust Fund, and should be picked up by the host the week preceding the event. The presenter must furnish a w-9 BEFORE the Stearns Burton committee submits the application to the Trustees.

STEARNS BURTON COMMITTEE: Mary Fortier, Al Jenks, Kitty Waitt