

Johnson Historical Society Monthly Meeting
12 December 2018 at 9:00 AM at the Holcomb House

Present: Dick Simays, Dean West, Jane Marshall, Lois Frey, Tom Carney, Alice Whiting, and Duncan Hastings.
Regrets: Linda Jones & Frank Dodge. Guests: Kelly Vandorn & Aggie West.

Dean called the meeting to order at 9 AM with a review of the agenda.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from 14 November 2018 were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom reported a checkbook balance of \$19,161.56 with a reserve fund balance of \$24,667.40. Report was accepted as presented.

Budget Report:

*2019-20 Budget Request: Following review and discussion of the 2019-2020 budget as proposed by Dean, Duncan & Lois several changes were agreed upon. Then **it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the proposed budget and send it to the town administrator.** Duncan will make adjustments on his spreadsheet and send the approved budget recommendations to Brian Story. (Copy filed with minutes.)

*Town/Village Display Area at Municipal Building: Following discussion of Lynda Hill's plan to refresh the Municipal Building Lobby, it was agreed that the Historical Society would like to help, perhaps having a secure exhibition space. Dean volunteered to contact Lynda.

*Proposed Holcomb House lease agreement: Duncan shared a copy of the draft lease agreement prepared as a result of the meeting with Dean, Duncan Eric Osgood and Doug Molde for the Holcomb House. The purpose of the lease agreement is for the JHS to have a legally binding document. Following discussion **it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the draft lease agreement to present to the Select Board or their representative.** (Copy filed with minutes.)

Administrative items:

* Holcomb House Host schedule:

January 03: Closed	January 06: Dean West
January 10: Tom Carney	January 13: Geoff Corey
January 17: Dick Simays	January 20: Jane Marshall
January 24: Lois Frey	January 27: Lynn Sibley
January 31: Alice Whiting	

*Newsletter & membership letter: Duncan volunteered to check with Meredith at the Village Office to see if the historical society mailing could be incorporated with a village mailing.

*Webpage: Luciana Swenson has worked out the webpage access issues so it ready to begin. Lois will contact her to follow-up.

*Town Report: Jane shared her draft copy of the 2018 Annual Report. A few adjustments were made. Lois will fix and send to Rosemary for the town report.

*Accessioning: New accessioning forms will be ready for introduction at the January 2019.

Building Committee Report:

*Power wash for Holcomb House: Responding to the status of the power wash project for the Holcomb House, Nat Kinney asked (via email) if the historical society would be willing to get bids for contracting the job. **It was moved, seconded and approved to get bids for power washing the building.** Duncan will put an inquiry on Front Porch Forum. Tom and Dean agreed to follow-up using a list of potential contractors provided by Aggie West. Results will be sent to the town administrator.

*Status of ceiling leak: Following a discussion that included the chronology of the leak which penetrated the ceiling in the kitchen area, an informal assessment of the damage, and recommendations for what needed to be done, it was decided to formally notify the town that the floor and ceiling tiles need to be replaced and that an insurance adjuster should be contacted to estimate the damage. Once the town has a quote, those present agreed it would make sense to install a floor that can withstand water with the trustees expressing a willingness to consider assisting with the cost of an upgraded floor covering.

*Carriage Room heat: The need to insulate and provide some heat in the Carriage Room to assure that the pipes in the Don Garrett apartment do not freeze was reiterated. Duncan reported he has suggested the Village Builders to Brian Story as a potential contractor for the project.

Programs/Projects

*Holiday Jubilee: The December 7th Holiday Jubilee saw a number of adult visitors as well as children, who enjoyed stories read by Alice and Jane and some bids added to the Silent Auction. The refreshments were yummy. Thanks to all who participated.

*December 16th program: Dr. Paul Rogers will talk at 2 PM at the Holcomb House. All is set for the event.

*Future Program Planning: Dean suggested it would be interesting to develop a program highlighting the historical development of schools in Johnson.

Fundraising Report

*Alice reported the capital campaign fund is about ½ way to completing the 10th and last slice of pie.

Acquisitions

*Bill Perkins donated a large jasper rock, used in the talc process.

*Dean relayed the information that his interview for the VT Historical Society on Channels 22 and 44 on the Talc Mill and Mine will air on Wednesday, December 19th and 20th and will then be available on their webpage.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting will be on January 9, 2019 at 9 AM.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary