

Johnson Historical Society Meeting
12 June 2019 at 9:00 AM at the Holcomb House

Present: Dick Simays, Tom Carney, Alice Whiting, Mary Jean Smith, Linda Jones, Duncan Hastings, Dean West & Lois Frey. Regrets: Kelly Vandorn

Dick called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Review agenda & make adjustments and/or additions:

Additions to the agenda by Duncan included review of year end balances with recommendations to the Selectboard for reservation of balances discussion to include 1) carriage room improvements, 2) conservation of artifacts, and 3) strategic planning grant match. Also review of cost estimates for Carriage Room and kitchen area for recommendation to the Selectboard. Tom added cost estimates for a direct vent heater.

Secretary's Report:

Meeting minutes for 8 May 2019 were accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

Lois reported for Kelly Vandorn. Receipts are \$35 from tip jar and \$5 for copying a photo with expenses of \$4.22 for keys and \$132.06 for the canopy purchase, plus Rosemary recorded the JHS \$1,500 contribution in lieu of rent. The account has \$5,061 with \$19,161.56 in reserve fund for \$24,243.95 total. Budget sheet is filed with minutes.

Budget Report:

*Review of year end balances indicate about \$5,000 will be unspent on June 30th.

Discussion ensued about the in-progress projects that target those dollars. It was decided by all that the recommendations for reservation of balances to the select board should include the following:

- 1) a match to the costs of making the Carriage Room improvements some of which benefit the Historical Society. (approximately \$2,000)
- 2) a match for the grant application to the Vermont Community Foundation for strategic planning. (not to exceed \$2,500)
- 3) conservation and preservation of historical artifacts and documents. (\$1,500 was suggested.)

The request is to ask the Selectboard to reserve the entire FY 18-19 fund balance from the Historical Society's budget and dedicate those funds to the three purposes described above.

*Review of estimates for Carriage Room and kitchen area. Duncan contacted 5 potential contractors for the **kitchen repair**. Four looked at the job and two submitted proposals, Brian Currier and Village Builders. Both estimates were close in price and the Historical Society feels both contractors would do a good job.

Duncan will submit both kitchen repair proposals with the recommendation that all the ceiling tiles be replaced and that the click plank vinyl flooring be used and that the contractor who can get the job done the soonest should be selected.

*The Board also asked Duncan to note that the Historical Society was able to secure the lift for power washing the Holcomb House as an outright donation. The work is scheduled for Monday, June 24th. The work will be done by Randy Depot.

Administrative items:

*July 2019 House Host schedule:

<u>Sunday- July</u>	<u>Thursday-July</u>
07 Mary Jean Smith	11 Geoff Corey
14 Lois Frey	18 Dean West
21 Alice Whiting & Jane Marshall	25 Linda Jones
28 Lynn Sibley	

*Newsletter: Linda reported that Tyler will have the draft newsletter ready by the end of this week.

*Webpage: Mary Jean reported that Grant Harper will contact Lois about getting the information for accessing the webpage.

*Special Friend criteria: **Following discussion it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the honorary board member and special friend of criteria as rewritten with an introduction.**

*Strategic Planning Next Steps: Duncan has submitted a grant request to the Vermont Community Foundation, which has a revolving acceptance policy with no specific reply/award date given. Two preliminary proposals have been submitted by Cope Associates and Noonmark Service, Dr. Jane Vanburen.

*Conserving books and ephemera: No cost estimate received to date.

*Creating a task list: Lois and Kelly will continue work on developing a task list with a place for indicating when and by whom the chore was accomplished. Draft will be sent to all.

***Other: Following discussion it was moved, seconded and approved to reimburse Linda Jones \$61.53 for her purchase of the antique Welcome to Johnson sign and to authorize the expenditure of \$50 for the annual Vermont Historical Society dues.**

Building Committee Report

*Tasks needed in the Carriage Room include completion of the sanding followed by applying paint to the walls. Space is needed to store the railroad wagon recently donated by Bill Perkins. Installation of the heater and insulation as discussed earlier is recommended as soon as possible.

Program/Projects

*Old and New Sale Follow-up: Dean shared a report from Aggie that the sale raised \$436 for the Building Fund. She has sent appropriate thank you notes to the folks who posted notices and to Steve Engel for use of the Masonic Temple. She sent her thanks to the volunteers who helped with the sale. The Board of Trustees express their appreciation to Aggie for her work organizing the event.

*Tuesday Night Live Planning: With Tuesday Night starting on July 9th it was decided to meet at the Legion Field at 9:30 AM that day to set up for the event.

*June genealogy Program: Tom reported that Genealogist Sheila Morris will present information and a hand-out to help get folks started. She will discuss how to find genealogical records, locally and on the internet; best practices for searching; and how to organize search results. Sheila is presently on the Board of Directors at the Vermont Genealogy Library in Colchester, VT. The program will be held on June 30th at 2 PM at the Holcomb House.

Fundraising Report

*Raffle of Georgia Balch painting. The raffle is in-process and will be featured in the upcoming JHS newsletter.

Acquisitions

*Linda reported that the Historical Society has received the paper work stating JHS be the recipient of a Georgia Balch painting from the Lillian Burn estate.

*Bill Perkins is anxious to permanently deliver the railroad wagon to the Holcomb House. With the Carriage Room not ready for additional items, Dean volunteered to check with his contact to see if space might be available.

*Linda reported that while on a tour of the Vermont Studio Center during the Johnson High School Reunion Weekend she spotted the old school board sign from the gym. She shared a nice picture of the score board. She wondered if VSC might donate it to the Historical Society. Dean volunteered to ask Gary Clark.

*Mary Jean delivered a geodetic survey marker dated 1924, which had formerly been in the steps

at the old Town Hall, now the Lowe Lecture Hall.

*All present admired the sports trophy from Jim Gillen, which had been delivered by Wayne Gillen.

The motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. The next meeting will be July 10th at 9 AM at the Holcomb House.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary