

Johnson Historical Society Agenda-Monthly Meeting
11 March 2020 at 9:00 AM at the Holcomb House

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

Dick called the meeting to order at 9 AM. Two additions were made to the agenda: 1) recommendation for program on covered bridges, and 2) Action related to Red Hooper slides.

Secretary's Report: Following discussion: 1) **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of February 12 and 26, 2020 as printed with all trustees voting.** 2) **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from the Strategic Planning Committee held on January 29, 2020 as printed with only committee members voting.**

Treasurer's Report: Kelly reported a balance of \$25,752.67. Kelly reported deposits of \$504, receipts from pie sales, donation jar, and memberships. Expenses of \$923.08 included Noonmark \$811.75, supplies \$26.33, and internet \$94. For future reference Duncan explained that revenues less expenses = cash position. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.**

Budget Report:

*Linda reported that JHS received an \$80 donation for the talc mill and mine copying that she had done for Chuck Magnus.

*In preparation of the year end budget planning, it was agreed that the accessioning committee would send their selected books and ephemera to the Municipal Building with a request to Rosemary to ask Dennis Curran at Kofile on his next visit to prepare estimates for each of the 17 pieces sent. Linda and Lois will deliver the package.

Administrative items:

*April 2020 House Host schedule:

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
	02. Tom Carney
05. Geoff Corey	09. Dean West
12. CLOSED	16. Dick Simays
19. Lois Frey	23. Linda Jones
26. Lynn Sibley	30. Duncan Hastings

*Web page: No report

*Strategic Planning Update: Duncan reported that the survey has been completed as of March 6, 2020. He has a few more to deliver to Jane. He reminded all of the April 14, 2020 Strategic Planning session from 9 AM to 3 PM. Kelly asked about lunch for the participants, which all agreed would be needed. Duncan will check with Jane to get her thoughts on how many of the folks that she interviewed might attend. Kelly and Alice volunteered to arrange for delivery of a lunch. Lois will warn the meeting as required.

Building Committee Report

*Building Use Agreement Update: Dean reported that the building use agreement has been signed by the town (Eric Osgood), Johnson Historical Society Inc. (Linda Jones) and Johnson Historical Society (Dick Simays.) A copy will be files in the Holcomb House office.

*Lease Talks: Duncan reported that Brian Story suggested that the Historical Society might want to start planning for a potential addition of more space in the building. With lease renewals signed annually on May first, thinking about how space might be used and what needed to be fixed during the next year would give the Town and the Historical Society about thirteen months to plan. The action needed would be to answer the question: Do we support the concept of taking over the second floor of the Holcomb House? **It was moved, seconded and passed to notify the Selectboard that the Historical Society has an interest in occupying the second floor of the Holcomb House as of May 2021.**

*Carriage Room tasks update: Dean reported that the electric outlets have been installed. The only task awaiting a volunteer is the sanding and painting. Duncan said he will try to get the sanding done. Dean said he is developing a plan for the re-set of the items in the Carriage Room.

* Roof leak: Dean shared the information he learned from Daryl and Ajay about what they found about the roof leak problem. The key for the future is to keep snow off the edge of the East Room roof. It can be reached with a rake. This should be an on-going maintenance item for the Town for which Brian Story should be made aware.

Program/Projects:

*Lois reminded folks that Jill Mudgett's VT History class plans to be at the Holcomb House by 6 PM on March 19th for a learning session until about 7:45 PM. The class is interested in 1) how Johnson's history fits with VT history and 2) challenges of starting a museum. Lois will facilitate and cover the starting a museum piece but is looking for more knowledgeable trustees to cover the Johnson history part. Time will be spent perusing the collection and Dean, Duncan, Linda

and Dick said they would help individuals as needed. Dean will present his history of Johnson overview.

Program Committee Report:

*Following up on the previous walking tour discussion, Alice agreed to check with Eric Kirk at NVU to learn the status of the walking tour he and a class were working on during 2018.

It was suggested that a future newsletter might request folks to share memories of life/houses on various Johnson streets including School Street and Pearl Street.

*Mike Dunham suggested that a talk on Johnson's historic covered bridges using paintings and photographs would be very interesting. All thought it was a great idea. So noted. The newsletter could be used to solicit pictures.

Following discussion about the best source for transferring some of the Red Hooper slides to digital format, **it was moved, seconded, and approved to purchase the services from Cosco for 274 slides at a cost of \$100 plus \$10.99 for a back-up set on a flash-drive.** A thank you is extended to Joanne Howard for her generous donation to this project.

Fundraising Report:

*JHS Inc. is planning a Spring raffle of the Georgia Balch yarn painting and will be selling tickets at the Craftsbury Antique Show on July 16th. Lois asked the trustees if they would approve the committee selling some of the non-Johnson postcards that have been received on that day. Following discussion, there was not support for using the postcards that way.

Other:

The postcard query generated a discussion about the JHS donation policy. Following a review of the policy it was decided that Duncan and Kelly would write a statement to amend the intake form clarifying the JHS's ability to dispose of items. They will create and circulate it to others.

Acquisitions: There were no acquisitions since last meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Meeting minutes by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary