

Johnson Historical Society Meeting
8 October 2014 at the Dr. Holcomb House at 11 AM

Present: Linda Jones, Alice Whiting, Dean West, Jane Marshall, Tom Carney; Frank Dodge & Lois Frey. Regrets: Jessyca West. Absent: Howard Romero.
Guest: Aggie West.

Linda Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. **The agenda was reviewed with two additions: 1) request from Linda Kramer at JSC for a Walk Around project and 2) consideration of insurance policy for the collection.**

Secretary's Report: It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the August 13, 2014 minutes as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Carney reported a balance of \$16,129. It was moved seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Acquisitions: *Dan Cowles of Cumming GA donated the *Lamoille Valley Cookbook* dated 1897.

*Carlton Ferguson of Fletcher donated copies of research on the Fullerton Family by Vera Spaulding Sweet and History of the Town of Fletcher by Ben A. Kinsley, Esq. both relating to Johnson.

*The Johnson Public Library offered a number of items to the Historical Society. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the gift of VT Quarterly 1953-date, VT Yearbook (1966-1987), Town Reports (2/1913 to date) and a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence (34.5 "x 40".)**

*Christine Knepper Manchester donated a picture of the Oasis and identified the youngster in the picture as Joyce Stanton Knepper (deceased).

*Alice Whiting brought a box of cards circa 1950 from the United Church Thrift Shop, sympathy notes from when Aurelia Dolan died.

*Sid and Marian Nichols sent a note asking if the Society would like a Seth Thomas clock, which was reconditioned by Brad Reed in the 1990s, and was owned by Ken & Clara Hopkins as well as a few other items if they decide to downsize. The offer was accepted with appreciation and the understanding that materials may be available at a later date.

*John Manley donated the army uniform of Clyde Burns, missing some bars or ribbons and the belt.

Building Committee Report: Dean West reported for the Building Committee that Gilles Lehouillier decided not to do work on the Historical Society Building and that John Smith of Wild Branch Construction in Craftsbury is preparing a proposal for action by the Select Board at their October 20, 2014 meeting. Dean asked the JHS Board to add a task to the RFP. **It was moved, seconded and approved to frame the stain glass window and remove the air conditioning unit & block the empty spaces on the East side of the building at JHS expense if necessary.**

Fundraising Report: *Membership Secretary, Alice Whiting reported that the recent 2015 membership appeal has generated 34 renewals and 10 new memberships to be added to the 15 multi-year members and the 8 life members for a total of 67 memberships to date. The number of JHS members exceeds 100.

*Aggie West, Tuesday Night Live Food Coordinator reported that the season ended with an income of \$4,008.

* Alice Whiting reported that the Building Fund Committee continues to pursue avenues for fundraising as a part of the JHS, Inc.

*Tom Carney reported that a royalty check from Arcadia Publishing for \$36.97 was received and will be deposited with Rosemary.

Program Update: Aggie West reported that Lorinda Henry plans to bring her father, Stanley to the presentation at 2 PM on October 12th at the Lowe Lecture Hall.

Walking Tour Proposal: Discussion was generated by an email request from Linda Kramer at the Johnson State College Library, requesting participation by the JHS in developing a walking tour of the town featuring Civil War sites and the Julian Scott collection. With a positive response from all present, Alice Whiting and Lois Frey agreed to follow-up with Linda.

Insurance for the JHS Collection: Following discussion generated from an email from Duncan Hastings in reference to insuring the Society's Collection, **it was agreed by consensus to increase the insurance from \$75,000 to \$100,000.**

Other Business: *Linda Jones reported the Holiday Jubilee will be held on Friday December 5, 2014 from 4 to 7 PM. If the Dr. Holcomb House is suitable for use by the public at that time, JHS will participate in the event from that site.

*Noting the new sign for the Grow Cemetery, the Recording Secretary was asked to send a thank you note to Gary and Roxanne Whitehill for their on-going care of the cemetery.

*Following discussion, **it was moved, seconded and approved to have the Recording Secretary order a supply of JHS stationery and envelopes.**

*Linda Jones shared the invitation from the VT Humanities Council for their November 14 & 15, 2014 program.

*Dean & Aggie West and Tom Carney reported on their informative visit to the Wells Maine Historical Society.

*Linda Jones reported that Rick Heath is now selling his History of Hyde Park, VT book, printed by Arcadia Publishing Company for \$21.95.

Next regular meeting is Wednesday, 10 December 2014 at the Dr. Holcomb House at 9 AM.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary