

Johnson Historical Society Monthly Meeting Minutes
13 September 2017 at 9:00 AM at the Holcomb House

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

Call to Order

Linda Jones called the meeting to order and two items were added to the agenda: a proposed visit from folks at Copley Manor and work sessions at the Holcomb House.

The minutes of August 9th were approved as printed.

Treasurer Tom Carney reported a balance of \$17,138.30 as of September 12, 2017. Linda reported Tuesday Night Live generated just over \$5,000 with more income from sale of excess product to be added.

Budget Report:

Two bills were authorized for payment, the Sheriff's Department at \$180 and Farm & Garden, Hardware and Rental at \$60.50.

Administrative items:

Museum Archive Software Project: Duncan Hastings shared his experience using a software package found on-line. **It was moved, seconded and approved to adopt and use the museum archive software with Duncan taking the leadership role.** A sub-committee will be formed to establish the protocols for using the system.

TNL Equipment & Supplies Storage: Following discussion, a number of potential storage areas for the TNL equipment were identified. Dean West and Tom will relocate the items. Appreciation was extended to Daryl West for again providing his trailer for storage throughout the TNL season.

Camera Proposal: Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved to authorize Tom to shop for a movie camera not to exceed \$250.

Holcomb House Hours for fall and winter will be Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 PM and Thursday from 9 AM to noon with Thursday also being an in-house work morning.

Open House Host Schedule for October 2017:

October 01 – Duncan Hastings	October 05 – Tom Carney
October 08 – Dean West	October 12 – Dick Simays
October 15 – Lois Frey	October 19 – Linda Jones
October 22 – Linda Jones	October 26 - Lois Frey
October 29 - Ed Raymond & Lynn Sibley	

Copley Manor Visit: Frank Dodge asked to host a visit from folks at the Copley Manor on September 21st at 1 PM. Linda and Dean volunteered to be at the Holcomb House to assist with the visit.

Update on Merrill Appraisal & Insurance: No report to date.

JHS Webpage: Due to lack of use, the donate button has been removed from the Johnson Historical Society webpage. The most recent addition to the page is a video produced by Jen Burton featuring Philip and Amy Thompson.

Building Committee Report:

Front yard repair & steps: Brian and Duncan have a plan which should be accomplished soon.

Eaves project: **Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved to ask the Selectboard to install a commercial gutter around the official entrance at the Holcomb House.**

Lighting fixture follow-up: Dean reported the overhead light installed in the East Room is adjustable if needed. The light is from the Johnson Elementary School.

Storage area plans: The interior work continues with Duncan mudding and Dean sanding. It was suggested that paint can be purchased at the Restore for \$10 a gallon. Dean will announce work sessions.

Program/Projects:

Tuesday Night Live Wrap-Up: It was a successful season in spite of the inclement weather with one session stopped by lightning and thunder and one cancelled due to weather. With 30 pie and cake bakers, three potato salad makers, two hot dog grillers and the set-up & break-down team, the Historical Society's presence at Tuesday Night Live is a team effort. Thanks to all for volunteering and thanks to the community for supporting us.

Ruth Mould paintings: Insurance assessment in progress.

Johnson/JSC documentary: No update.

JHS role when town roads are being named: No update.

October 15th program: Planning is still in process, awaiting word from Eric Tobin. The drawing will take place at 3 PM. Duncan will provide a butter churn to use for the raffle drawing.

Jubilee – Buy Local program: The program will be held again this year with a new system for folks securing *visitor stamps*. Historical Society has been asked to do readings as in the past. Jane Marshall will be the story teller. More to follow.

Fundraising Report:

Membership: No new members. Letters will be prepared in November.

Building Fund Committee: The committee is scheduled to meet on September 20th. Duncan shared information about the Amazon Smile program, which will donate to 501C3 organizations. With a favorable response from those present, Duncan will pursue the details.

Art Raffle: Ticket sales are going well.

Acquisitions:

Dean has found a 1907 advertisement for a Majestic Washing Machine. **It was moved, seconded and approved to authorize Dean to purchase the item for \$12.**

Loretta Wescom donated photographs, pillow cases, and documents.

Dick Simays donated Boy Scout Troop 94 materials from the Long Trail Troop Committee.

Philip and Amy Thompson have some Odell knives and a history of the company. Philip also asked if the JHS was interested in his father's Navy uniform. Response was affirmative.

Tom donated a Johnson Rodeo Poster, which he will laminate.

Two 1915 license plates were added to the plate collection.

Other:

Dick asked about storage in the basement. The cellar is fairly dry presenting an opportunity for some storage if shelves are built. The coal bin contains a good amount of coal, which if removed would open up some dry space.

Frank encouraged the production of videos to record as much of Johnson's history as possible.

Dick asked about volunteers keeping track of in-kind contributions including Trustees and other volunteers. Dick reminded all that records of in-kind contributions can be a significant match for grants. Lois will look for forms developed for that purpose.

Linda distributed a thank you note to Trustees expressing appreciation for their contributions at Tuesday Night Live throughout the summer.

Next meeting will be October 11th at 9 AM.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary