

Johnson Historical Society Meeting Minutes
13 December 2017 at the Holcomb House

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

Linda called the meeting to order at 9 AM. Duncan requested one addition to the agenda: Action on Holcomb House Use and Sales Agreement.

The minutes for 8 November 2017 were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Duncan reported for the absent treasurer a balance of \$21,995.60.

Budget Report: There were a couple of questions raised about the budget report which were answered by Rosemary Audibert by telephone. The budget print-out dated 12.6.2017 is attached with the minutes.

Administrative items:

*Open House Host Schedule for January 2018:

Thursday

January 04 – Tom Carney

January 11 – Duncan Hastings

January 18 – Dick Simays

January 25 – Alice Whiting

Sunday

January 07 – Dean West

January 14 – Lois Frey

January 21 – Linda Jones

January 28 – Ed Raymond & Lynn Sibley

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

*Town Report Ideas: Lois asked if anyone had an idea or two for the annual town report, which will be due to Rosemary the third week of January. Alice suggested that parts of the recent fundraising letter could be used since it discussed what the JHS has accomplished in the past year. Highlighting a recent acquisition like the school display case could be of interest to folks. Duncan volunteered to review a first draft and make suggestions.

*Holcomb House Sales and Use Agreement: **Following review of and discussion about the proposed Holcomb House sales and use agreement, it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the policy with modifications made at the 12.13.2017 JHS meeting and to have Dean and Duncan take the policy to the Selectboard for their consideration.** Revised statement will be filed with the JHS minutes.

Building Committee Report:

*Duncan reported that Dean received a price of \$1,700 for pouring cement to complete the floor of the Carriage Room from Phil Morin, who provided cement for the other section of the room. Following discussion, **it was moved, seconded and approved to submit the estimate to the Selectboard for consideration in their budget.**

*Duncan also reported that Dean has purchased the West Room light for installation. It will come with a mail-in rebate which will need to be sent-in to the appropriate company. It was suggested that Dean check with Tom when the paperwork arrives.

Fundraising Report:

*Membership: Alice reported the results of the recent JHS mailing with the following results: memberships: Individual one year-12; Family one year-8, five year-3, two year-1; Senior one year-13, five years-1; Business one year-2. Donations totaling \$380 for the general operating fund were also received.

*Building Fund Committee: Also as a result of the membership mailing, Alice reported donations to the Capital Campaign received totaled \$1,505.

*For clarification, following discussion about where to deposit the proceeds in the Donation Jar, **it was moved, seconded and approved to have all donation jar funds be deposited to JHS general operations fund.**

Program/Projects:

*Jubilee Wrap-Up: Forty-two people visited the Holcomb House during the Jubilee. Jane Marshall's readings were well received by the youngsters and their parents. Folks enjoyed the hot apple cider on a chilly evening and the cookies were rated delicious. One book was sold and a new membership received. Linda and Lois said the event was successful enough to consider doing it again next year.

*2018 Program Calendar:

Brainstorming generated a list of potential key questions that might be used at a cracker barrel or around-the-woodstove type of program, where residents would share some of their life in Johnson experiences. For example, do you have 1) a favorite childhood experience, 2) an interesting story to tell, 3) an old cellar hole on your property, or 4) an interaction with Dr. Holcomb? It was decided to schedule this kind of an event on Sunday, January 21st at 2 PM. Details will be worked out and shared via email.

Acquisitions: No acquisitions received this month; although Alice has some responses from the membership letter which will require follow-up after the holidays.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned. Next meeting is 10 January 2018.

Meeting minutes by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary