

Johnson Historical Society Monthly Meeting  
14 March 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Holcomb House

Present: Alice Whiting, Dick Simays, Dean West, Tom Carney, Duncan Hastings, Lois Frey and Linda Jones (arrived at 10 AM.) Regrets: Jane Marshall, Frank Dodge. Guest: Aggie West.

Dean called the meeting to order with a review of the agenda. No items were added.

The minutes of 14 & 28 February 2018 were approved as printed.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$21,607.

**Budget Report:**

\*It was clarified that the Trustees wanted Tom to check if and how much the JHS was contributing to the Town for the \$100,000 insurance coverage of the contents of the Historical Society's building.

\*Responding to the request for a JHS reduction in FY2018-19 budgets several suggestions were discussed: 1) request a 1% across the board cut for all budgets; 2) look at budget increases above the FY2017-18 allocation; 3) clarify payment for the cement project. Dean and Duncan will attend the Selectboard meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> to represent the Historical Society's interests.

**Administrative items:**

\*April 2018 House Host schedule: April 1<sup>st</sup> CLOSED, April 8<sup>th</sup> Dean West, April 15<sup>th</sup> Lois Frey, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Duncan Hastings, April 29<sup>th</sup> Lynn Sibley & Ed Raymond.

\*Update on potential JSC art loan & insurance options: Duncan continues to work on coordinating a visit with Elaine Collins. Discussion about the insurance options if paintings are loaned to JHS indicated that there are three to consider: 1) insured by lender (JSC), 2) insured by town, and 3) insured by JHS with a rider on the town policy.

\*Accessioning System: Duncan is waiting for a response from the Green Mountain Tech Center. Margo Warden (JSC) and Greg Stefanski (CCV) will check out the possibilities and student interest in data input assistance as a community service learning project. Duncan plans to spend time with the accessioning program and then a training session will be scheduled.

**Building Committee Report:**

\*Dean reported that the light has been installed in the West Room. **Following discussion about the lights in the kitchen, it was moved, seconded and approved to purchase and install four LED tubes in that room.**

2) Tom reported that Tom's Team will meet on March 15<sup>th</sup> to clear the section of the Carriage Room that will be receiving cement in the near future. Following discussion, **it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the risk of having to pay all or part of the project's cost if the item became a part of the Selectboard cuts.**

**Programs/Projects:**

\*Town Meeting Report: The response to the JHS pie sales at Town Meeting was terrific with \$360 in pie sales and \$10 in tips for a total of \$370. Appreciation is extended to our volunteer bakers! Folks enjoyed the Farms of Johnson exhibit.

Programs/Projects (continued):

\*Future Events: 1) It was decided to hold the next JHS Sunday program in May. 2) A visit from a group of children from the Library/JES program will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 12:10 PM. More information about the visit will be forthcoming. If set-up time is needed those available will prepare on Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM.

\*Strategic Planning: A special meeting to work on a strategic plan for the Johnson Historical Society was scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> but following notice of a conflict, **the date of May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 AM was selected.**

\*JHS Newsletter: It was decided that discussion about developing a JHS newsletter would be an appropriate item for the upcoming strategic plan.

\*Foundation Mapping: Duncan has spoken with Brian Story about the JHS's interest in pursuing data and potentially having a GPS overlay with original lot lines added to the town's system. At a recent Selectboard meeting Brian stated he is looking for a cost estimate. Duncan is helping him. The Selectboard agreed that the concept has merit.

\*Tom reported that the Lamoille Retired Teachers have requested a visit to the Holcomb House on September 24, 2018 bringing about 30 people to view the exhibits. Details will be developed in the days ahead.

Fundraising Report:

\*Membership: Alice reported the 2018 Historical Society membership tally one honorary, 18 individual, 17 seniors, 45 family, 10 life and 3 business.

\*Building Fund Committee: Alice reported she continues to receive donations in support of the Johnson Historical Society, Inc. Capital Campaign.

\*Funding Activity: Aggie has gathered information for a future Basket Auction which will be presented at the next meeting due to time constraints.

Acquisitions:

\*Linda showed a pair of advertising posters (RC Can Company) which Bill Perkins found that for many years hung in the Lab at the Talc Mill. It was decided that the JHS should accept the gift for our Talc Collection.

\*Lois reported receipt of terrific photographs taken by Steve Roberts at the Remember When presentation. The disc is available in the office.

\*Dean reported that Dave Stackpole plans to drop-off a pair of very old Johnson Woolen Mill pants (red & black wool) made in the factory.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary