

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

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

Dean called the meeting to order with a review of the agenda.
The minutes of 14 March 2018 were approved as printed.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$21,707.50 with a checkbook figure of \$17,138.
Budget Report: The report prepared by Dean and Duncan for the Selectboard proposed reductions was reviewed and is filed with the minutes. The Selectboard has not announced their budget cuts to date.

Administrative items:

*May 2018 House Host schedule: The House schedule will return to Sundays & Thursdays.

May 03: Tom Carney	May 06: Dean West
May 10: Jane Marshall	May 13: Lois Frey
May 17: Dick Simays	May 20: Duncan Hastings
May 24: Tom Carney	May 27: Ed Raymond & Lynn Sibley
May 31: Alice Whiting	

*JSC Art: Duncan and Alice reported on their meeting (Linda too) with Elaine Collins and Sharon Scott. The college is interested in working with the Historical Society and has a number of internal items to check. They will review the original donation agreements and check with their insurer specifically as their policy applies to off-site locations. President Collins believes any art exchange will be a loan, not a donation. Following the meeting, Linda shared a copy of the JHS appraisal with President Collins. They will get back to JHS.

Alice and Duncan felt it was a good meeting. The NVU is also interested in cooperating with community endeavors and may be able to provide JHS with some student assistance specifically around accessioning.

*Accessioning System: Duncan has tried with limited success to spend time reviewing the accessioning program. A training session will be scheduled in the days ahead. Perhaps the NVU students will be able to help.

Building Committee Report:

*Following discussion about the cement floor in the Carriage Room, those present reiterated their support to accept the risk of having to pay all or part of the project's cost if the item becomes a part of the Selectboard cuts.

Programs/Projects:

*Future Events: It was decided to schedule a Remember When: A Ladies View on May 20th at 2 PM. Dean and Alice volunteered to check with the ladies who were identified for the program. Details to be announced when finalized.

*Strategic Planning: A special meeting to work on a strategic plan for the Johnson Historical Society was confirmed for Tuesday, May 1st at 10 AM to noon. The discussion will be a brainstorming session aimed at developing a long range plan for the JHS and the building by addressing three questions: Where are we now? Where are we going? How will we get there? Developing an action list for the next three years is a possibility.

*JHS Newsletter: Reserved for future planning if an editor or leader is identified.

*Foundation Mapping: Reserved for future planning by perhaps an external committee with assistance from a JHS member.

*Tom confirmed that the Lamoille Retired Teachers will visit the Holcomb House on September 24, 2018 at 9 AM bringing about 30 people to view the exhibits. After their visit, they will depart for their regular business meeting and luncheon.

*Youth Library Program visit on April 10th brought 27 youngsters and several adults to the Holcomb House. The children were interested in pictures and artifacts from the 1890s to about 1920, a period that was covered in their reading program. They found a variety of items from that period with help from Dick, Duncan, Dean, and Lois.

Fundraising Report:

*Membership: Alice reported the updated numbers since March, for the 2018 Historical Society membership tally: one senior and two family memberships for a total of 97 memberships in all categories.

*Building Fund Committee: Alice reported she continues to receive donations in support of the Johnson Historical Society, Inc. Capital Campaign. \$18,340 is needed to add pie slice #9 and \$48,340 is needed to fill the pie chart.

*Linda has information about the Amazon Smile program, which will be shared with Treasurer JoAnn Benford after tax season.

*Funding Activity: Aggie has gathered information for a future Basket Auction which she shared. Finding a site location is proving to be difficult or expensive. Additionally Lois shared information which Linda had received from Dawn Locke in Waterville which offered some specific details for conducting a Basket Auction like the one in Waterville, which she reported was a time consuming undertaking. The discussion generated some thoughts for variations of the Basket Auction based on the time and effort required by all to deliver a successful program. Aggie shared a number of lists of items donated from other activities in the area. Tom brought up the idea of a yard sale in September or October as another option. JHS has two ski chairs and two Georgia Balch pieces of art that may be raffled. No action was taken.

Other business: Dean introduced the topic of securing a trailer for Tuesday Night Live. Duncan mentioned, a JHS trailer could be registered through the town for \$5 and covered on our insurance policy. There may be a possibility of purchasing the one used last year, which worked out great. Dean will follow-up and also check on new trailers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be May 9th at 9 AM.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary