

Johnson Historical Society Monthly Meeting
10 July 2019 at the Holcomb House

Present: Dick Simays, Mary Jean Smith, Dean West, Linda Jones, Duncan Hastings, Tom Carney, Kelly Vandorn, Alice Whiting & Lois Frey

Dick Simays called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

The agenda was reviewed and no adjustments and/or additions were made.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from 12 June 2019 were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly reported the JHS balance is \$19,185.68. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Budget Report:

*Duncan reported that the Historical Society's request to rollover FY 2018-19 funds to the FY 2019-20 budget was accepted by the Selectboard. The items proposed included: 1) conservation of historical documents and important books, 2) improvements in the Carriage Room, and 3) match dollars for a grant for assistance with developing a strategic plan.

*Kelly reported that she has started to analyze the JHS budget and expects to have recommendations at the next meeting.

Administrative items

*August 2019 House Host Schedule

<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
01. Tom Carney	04. Linda Jones
08. Dean West	11. Mary Jean Smith
15. Duncan Hastings	18. Alice Whiting & Jane Marshall
22. Geoff Corey	25. Lynn Sibley
29. Dick Simays	

*Newsletter: Tyler Swenson with help from his mother, Luciana produced another excellent newsletter with two full pages of content. Linda, Alice, and Lois printed and mailed the newsletter to all JHS members. Thank you Tyler.

*Web page: Mary Jean successfully contacted Grant Harper about development of the JHS webpage. He has been in contact with Mary Jean and Lois and has started to make improvements on the page. It is still a work in-progress with good ideas coming from Grant.

*Strategic Planning Next Steps: Duncan reported the application is pending with the VCF approval timeline fast approaching.

*Conserving books and ephemera: Following a discussion with Linda, Lois and Rosemary, Dennis Curran with KOFILE Technologies, prepared a treatment plan for the Hotel Johnson Ledger, and the copy of the original town plot plan. Proposed treatment for the Ledger will involve complete dismantling, logging into our system, de-acidification, mending, removal/reduction of glue and adhesives, some surface dry cleaning, flattening, alkaline buffering, resewing and reconstructing cover to match original. The copy of the Plot Plan will be humidified, flattened, dry cleaned, de-acidified and alkaline buffered.

Ledger (Guest) Hotel Johnson: \$1,080.00 Copy of Original Plot Plan: \$150.00 Color Copy of Plot Plan: \$40.00 per copy. Treatment will commence after JHS Trustees authorize the project then the work typically takes 14-18 weeks. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the proposal from KOFILE Technologies at \$1,080 Ledger, \$150 Plot Plan, and \$40 for a color copy of the plot plan.**

*Creating a task list: Kelly and Lois shared a copy of the revised Task List. The list will be posted in the Office and folks can record any task they undertake and add new ones if they want.

Building Committee Report

*Tasks needed in the Carriage Room: Sanding needs to be completed then painting can be started. The project for insulation and a heater is moving forward with Duncan checking with Brian about the insulation and Tom checking on the heater.

*Dean reported that a Knox box will need to be purchased if we want one. He will check into the cost for one. And report at the August meeting.

*The power washed building is a great improvement; however, some of the stains were not removable at this time. It was suggested that a bleach solution might be added for the next power wash.

*Appreciation was expressed to Alan Lehouillier for two days use of the power lift. **It was moved, seconded, and approved for the JHS Secretary to prepare a thank you letter.**

*Dean reported he attended a recent Selectboard meeting where he learned, according to Brian Story that the income from the two apartments is enough to only pay for the utilities.

Program/Projects:

*June Genealogy Program Follow-up: About 10 people participated in the discussion and information provided by Sheila Morris. Tom made copies of her hand-outs for all. Sheila is willing to return to Johnson to teach genealogy research on the computer and to provide information on the bookbinding project at her museum.

*Tom suggest Jake Swanson, a woodcarver might do a program in the future.

*Tuesday Night Live: Lois reported that the first Tuesday Night Live event generated \$807 for the Historical Society, \$773 in food sales and \$34 in tips.

Dick reported that he spoke with Bobbi at the Sterling Market requesting a donation of hotdog rolls. She requested a letter from the JHS. Dick also suggested requesting help from other stores including Price Chopper and Hannafords. Dick will take care of rolls follow-up.

Lois reported that while she is paying for the potato salad, the Sterling Market deli manager, Chad Hanley is helping by providing different potato salads weekly at a discounted price.

Lois also reported that she will pick up the McKenzie hot dog donation before week 2 of TNL.

Fundraising Report

*Raffle of Georgia Balch painting: Alice reported that the raffle continues. On Saturday tickets will be sold at the Craftsby Antiques & Craft Show by Alice, Linda, Lois, and Jane Marshall. Colin and Kaeti Vandorn will sell tickets at Tuesday Night Live. Others are invited to join them anytime to reach out across the Legion Field.

*Capital Campaign: Alice announced a celebration of the completion of the capital campaign will be held July 28th at 2 PM. The Holcomb House will be opened from 1 to 4 PM with the Words of Appreciation starting at 2 PM followed by an ice cream social. Lois will pick up the donated ice cream on July 25th. Jane Marshall has obtained the small dishes.

Acquisitions

*Tom announced a headstone has been donated by George Swanson. The deceased is the wife of George Mills. The family is buried at the Evergreen Ledge Cemetery. Dean remembers base-stones being found at the edge of the Ken & Clara Hopkins land, now the Laraway School, which might explain the stone's presence in that area. The stone will be moved to the Holcomb House.

*Dean announced the baggage cart has been moved to his garage for storage until the Carriage Room space is available.

*A crib donated by Gloria and Robert Mobbs has been delivered to the Holcomb House.

*Duncan reported that the Power House Building has been deemed unsafe; therefore, there is no access for anyone. He believes the generation records from 1945 to 1951 may be stored at the Municipal Building. He will follow-up.

Dick reported that the Town Hall weathervane is topped with a hollow eagle. Steve Engel has pictures, copies of which Dick will get for JHS.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary