

Johnson Historical Society Monthly Meeting
11 September 2019 at 9:00 AM at the Holcomb House

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

Dick called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with a review of the agenda. Linda added a request for JHS to participate at the Jubilee on December 6th.

Secretary's Report: Lois reported that she had missed one discussion and one name from August 14th meeting and has the information, which Duncan provided to add at this time.

*Dick introduced the idea of purchasing shirts with the JHS logo monogrammed on each at a cost of \$26.50 each. Following discussion about the purchase **Duncan made the motion which was seconded and approved to have the Historical Society pay 50% of the cost of the monogrammed shirts for Historical Society board members only.** There had been discussion about paying 50% of the cost for some other non-board members, but the final motion was for board members only. Also, Jacob's last name was omitted (Vandorn) and should be added to the minutes. **With the two corrections added it was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the August 14th minutes.***

Treasurer's Report: Kelly reported a balance of \$28,826.04. Because there was confusion about the expenses as they related to the building improvements, **it was moved, seconded, and approved to table the Treasurer's Report until the October meeting providing time for budget clarification.**

Budget Report:

Consolidated Communications Internet access & telephone update. Kelly reported that with the assistance of Tom, Don Garrett, and Jacob Vandorn she was able to see completion of the installation of upgraded internet access and telephone on September 3rd. The speed is increased significantly. The new wireless code will be left in the desk drawer with the others.

Administrative items:

*October 2019 House Host Schedule

<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
03) Tom Carney	06) Linda Jones
10) Dean West	13) Geoff Corey
17) Kelly Vandorn	20) Lois Frey
24) Mary Jean Smith	27) Lynn Sibley
31) Dick Simays.	

Following discussion, it was noted that Dick will be the contact if a host has to leave the Holcomb House while on-duty or if a host is unable to serve as planned.

*Newsletter: Linda shared the draft of the September newsletter which she plans to return to Luciana Swenson for final edits so it will be ready for printing by the end of the week. It was suggested that a mystery item be added. Linda will coordinate the next steps.

*Web page: The paper work has been completed for the new contract with Grant Harper at Website Valley L.L.C. Linda reported that some of the pictures in the Gallery need separation between words and captions. Mary Jean and Lois plan to follow-up and will work with Grant.

*Strategic Planning next steps: Duncan reported his progress was interrupted temporarily but he will continue to solicit consultants.

*Alarm system follow-up & Options for Carriage Room. Tom checked the alarm system and it worked. He will develop a new list of contacts for Heidi at the Sheriff's Department with Don Garrett being the primary contact but only on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The contacts on other days will be Tom, Dick, & Dean in that order. He also reported that the Carriage Room alarm system can sync into the Holcomb House system. Following discussion, **it was moved, seconded and approved for Tom to get cost estimates and then install the necessary equipment to the security system not to exceed \$500.**

*Task list: Kelly reported that the September Task List is posted for use by Hosts.

*Preservation/Conservation of books and ephemera: Linda and Lois showed the preserved publications, the old town plot plan and the Johnson Hotel Ledger recently returned to JHS from KOFILE technologies.

*Jubilee: Following discussion **it was moved, seconded and approved for the JHS to participate at the December 6th Jubilee from 4 to 7 PM with a program similar to previous years including cookies.**

Building Committee Report

*Building Use Agreement: Dean reported on his meeting with Eric Osgood and Doug Molde. With Duncan unavailable (as well as Dick and Tom) to attend, he asked Lois to sit in. Dean reported the meeting was positive and a second meeting will be held later in September when Duncan can attend. Items for consideration related to the building use agreement include 1) preparing a proposal from the JHS, 2) having a justification for giving/forgiving a portion of the debt to the town, 3) be specific in proposal for who pays for what, 4) have a list of in-kind services and the exact balance in cash, and 5) town can participate in an agreement with the Johnson Historical Society Inc., a non-profit but not with the Johnson Historical Society, an entity of the town.

*Carriage Room update: The water problem is being addressed with Dick, Brian

Krause, and Brian Story working with Stanley Wescom, who is on-site doing the porch project. First proposed step is to have Brian K. grade the area making a 2% swale to redirect the water. The crack in the cement can be filled with an epoxy sealant and the porch support posts are in bad shape and need replacement. Brian S. will get Selectboard approval.

*Knox Box update: Dean reported that Arjay West is working on getting the Knox Box with size based on the experience from the Catholic Church. Dick mentioned there are a number of sizes available should the need arise for something different.

Program/Projects:

*Tuesday Night Live Follow-up: Linda reported that Tuesday Night Live was very successful although two evenings featured inclement weather. The total receipts were \$5,565.25 with expenses of \$255.29 for the eight-week series. Linda has sent thank you notes to all of the volunteers who contribute to the success of the event.

*Sunday Talks: What's Next: Linda reported that Lynette Cortney, granddaughter of Dr. Holcomb likes the idea of sharing stories but needs to check with her sister, Carol. They have artifacts and pictures which they could talk about as well as their memories of visiting the home.

Alice plans to check-in with Bob Titterton in early October.

Fundraising Report

*Raffle of Georgia Balch painting follow-up: Alice reported that the Georgia Balch painting generated \$1,770 (\$200 more than the appraised value of \$1,500) and the winner was Barry Simays, who grew up in Johnson. Thanks go to Chuck Conger for the donation of the painting.

*What's Next: No new fundraising projects are being considered at this time.

Acquisitions

*Mary Jean brought several pictures one of which is of the United Church organ taken by Wayland Mills and donated by Gary Smith.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary