

Johnson Historical Society Meeting
10 March 2021 at 9:00 AM via ZOOM

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

President Dick Simays called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM. There was an addition to the agenda: Query from VT Historic Preservation needs response.

Duncan Hastings reported the sad news that Lea Kilvadyova passed away suddenly on Sunday due to complications related to her long-term illness. Dick called for a few moments of silence in memory of Lea.

It was also reported that Gordon Davis passed away recently.

Secretary's Report: **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from 2.10.2021.**

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Vandorn sent a copy of the JHS Budget sheet with revenue and expenses recorded through 3.9.2021 as well as the transaction sheet to all via email. She reported the reserve checkbook balance shows \$33,625.88 a gain of \$1.78. Expenses since last meeting include payment for the sheetrock project, as well as copies and postage for the newsletter.

There is a balance of \$320.40 from the FY 2021 budget plus the \$6,642 carryover. Potential expenditures were identified: completion of work in the Carriage Room and ceiling painting in the East Room. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.**

Administrative Items:

*Webpage: Mary Jean Smith contacted Grant Harper about a reported glitch on the About Us section of the webpage. An adjustment will be made.

*Facebook: Linda Jones reported that the Facebook page had received 1,266 likes as of March 10, 2021. The addition of the Village Dedication page was well received.

*Newsletter: Linda Jones again reported the next newsletter is scheduled for May 2021.

*Strategic Plan Review: Duncan Hastings reported he has not received a reply from Jane Van Buren; therefore, no action.

*Conservation of Books: Still no word from KOFILE Technology but Rosemary is planning to check their work status.

*Historical Preservation Query: The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation is evaluating whether or not three buildings located at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson meet the evaluation criteria for listing in the State Register of Historic Places. The buildings are: Bradley House & Barn, 110 Pearl Street, Diney House (aka the Diner), 20 Lower Main Street, and the Firehouse Studio, 29 Pearl Street. Following discussion about the historic value of the buildings, the youngest being the Old Firehouse which was built in the 1960s, it was determined that all have historical significance in Johnson.

It was move, seconded and approved for the Johnson Historical Society to write a letter to support the recommended designation of the three properties. Dick will respond.

*Building Committee Report: Dean reported that the Carriage Room has been painted by Lynda Hill, who supplied all the paint for the ceiling and completed the work as a donation. Dick suggested that Dean ask Lynda for an invoice marked donation for her tax purposes and the JHS donation records. Secretary will send a thank you to Lynda.

Kelly suggested that the water-damaged ceiling tiles in the East Room should be painted. Dean will ask Lynda if she can complete that task with pay.

Dean and Tom are planning the Carriage Room work detail for May or June. It was suggested that it will be a multi-day project and tarps and other coverings will be needed.

The coordination will include a thorough cleaning of the Carriage Room (hopefully by Al & Candy Lettieri), perhaps also painting the floor with concrete paint (Lynda), and after cleaning all the contents while outside returning them to appropriate locations.

Tom suggested that JHS purchase some rubber mats to place in front of the work area in the Carriage Room.

For yard work, Mary Jean said she would like to substantially prune the rose bush, a needed task. All agreed.

*Bylaw Revision: Duncan reported the committee did not meet and are hoping to have face-to-face session in the near future. He is also checking if sub committees are subject to Open Meeting Law rules. Duncan asked Brian Story if it would be acceptable for the 3 or 4 members to gather at the Holcomb House. Brian will check with the Emergency Response Team. Duncan stated that Lois Frey had responded to his request for by-law suggestions, which he shared with the committee.

*Membership Report: Alice Whiting reported that there were 8 to 10 new memberships following the second mailing. Dick thanked Alice for sending the membership list to all. Tom suggested that the membership list and the donation list be added to the webpage.

*Program/Projects: No report

*Fundraising: No report

*Acquisitions: Linda reported receiving four postcards and miscellaneous pictures from Barbara Backus. She also received pictures from Alice.

Dick reported that he received a call from the folks who purchased the former Gordon Davis house on Main Street, later occupied by the Bearded Plumber, looking for information about the house. Send any info to Dick.

Next meeting: Duncan has reserved ZOOM with the next session scheduled for April 14, 2021 at 9 AM.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Secretary