

JOHNSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AUGUST 11, 2021 at the HOLCOMB HOUSE

Present: Dick Simays, Alice Whiting, Linda Jones, Duncan Hastings, Kelly Vandorn, Tom Carney (9:37,) Mary Jean Smith, & Lois Frey. Guest: Dean West & Howard Romero.

Dick Simays called the meeting to order at 9 AM. There were no additions to the agenda.

Secretary's report: The minutes from 7/14/21 were approved as printed.

Treasurer's report: Kelly Vandorn distributed a copy of the monthly report for July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 (attached.) One highlight is the \$4804 of income from Tuesday Night Live to date. Kelly also reported receipt of the annual bill for the website. **It was moved, seconded and approved to authorize Rosemary Audibert to pay the \$270 to Website Valley LLC.**

Administrative items:

*Opening Holcomb House and hosting schedule – Following discussion about Covid 19 and current concerns with the variant, it was decided that the Holcomb House would be opened by appointment only and masks will be required for all with no exceptions. Publicity announcing this policy will suggest interested folks contact a member of the Board of Trustees to arrange a visit. A sign on the Holcomb House will continue to direct folks to contact Dick or Lois.

*Social media - Facebook: Linda reported that she has received many responses about the four Pecks cabins post. She is still tracking down information.

Webpage – Following discussion it was clarified that all activity and/or correspondence related to the webpage should go through Mary Jean, the JHS webpage point person. Trustees with items to post should send them to Mary Jean to process. It should be clarified with Grant that the financial correspondence should be sent to Mary Jean who will pass it on to the Treasurer.

Unanticipated request: Howard Romero stopped by to ask the Historical Society to cook and serve hotdogs on Sunday, August 22nd for the dedication at Old Mill Park. JHS would provide the grill and appropriate set-up as well as people to cook and serve and the Dedication Committee will provide the food. It was agreed to accept the task with Duncan, Tom, and Lois agreeing to participate. Others will check their calendars and let Duncan know.

Building committee report:

*Maintenance of roof: With no response to date Dick and Duncan will follow-up with Brian Story and Eric Osgood.

*Insulation removal: Weatherization VT requires insulation be removed and properly disposed of before they can address any issues with the building.

*Second floor occupancy: The Building Committee drafted a letter for the Selectboard outlining some needs and considerations when addressing a JHS expansion to the second floor. The letter requested their support and authorization to proceed. Duncan shared the letter with all.

Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved to send the Building Committee's letter as written.

*Capital budget – As a follow-up to a previous meeting, Duncan noted the JHS reserve fund needed a written statement in the town's Capital Budget. He volunteered to write one and will send his draft to Dean West, Linda and Lois to review.

*Dean West Board retirement – Dick read an acknowledgment of Dean West’s service to the Johnson Historical Society. **It was moved, seconded and approved to name Dean West an Honorary JHS Board Member.** The certificate will be printed and signed by all before presentation to Dean.

*Trustee job description - A draft Trustee Job Description was distributed for review in advance of the meeting. Two changes were made in the document before **it was moved seconded and approved to accept the Trustee Job Description with two changes.**

*T-Mobile grant availability – Dick will send a copy of the T-Mobile grant availability to all for consideration.

Program/Projects

*Program committee report – The committee reported progress is being made for three programs: 1) a cemetery tour with 4-5 people highlighted, 2) a slide presentation highlighting Red Hooper’s community connections, and 3) a Johnson schools report. Where and when are being considered.

Fundraising report

* TNL receipts to \$4804.

Acquisitions

*Dorcas Jones delivered a shoe shine kit and a suitcase which came from her mother, Norma Dayton via Kelly. It was decided the shoe shine kit would complement the JHS shoe & boot collection and the suitcase would fit well on the baggage cart, soon to be removed from storage.

*Alice brought a Johnson State College map, an obituary for Mattie Baker, an Eric Tobin poster and a letter from Rebecca Crone (a relative of Anna Hutchins. Tom volunteered to laminate the Mattie Baker obituary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary