

JOHNSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2021 * 9:00 AM * MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Present: Dick Simays, Alice Whiting, Kelly Vandorn, Duncan Hastings, Mary Jean Smith (left at 10:35 AM,); Linda Jones, Tom Carney, & Lois Frey.

Dick Simays called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.

One addition was added to the agenda: open meeting law follow-up.

Secretary's Report: **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from November 9 & 10, 2021 as printed.**

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Vandorn reported the November posted expenses totaled \$550.93 which included: 1) telephone & internet, 2) purchase of new dehumidifier 3) maintenance cleaning by the Letterie's, and 4) small hardware items from Johnson Hardware Rental, Farm & Garden. Budget sheet filed with minutes. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.**

Administrative Items:

*Holcomb House hosting schedule: no action.

*Social Media:

Webpage: Mary Jean Smith reported that Grant Harper passed away unexpectedly on November 19, 2021. Through his website design company, Website Valley, he provided excellent service to the Johnson Historical Society. Mary Jean will follow up with family members in a few weeks if no business notice is received.

Facebook: Linda Jones reported that she and Barbara Backus have a new series of holiday cards be added to the JHS Facebook page for December.

Standing Committees:

Building, Grounds, & Facility Development:

Duncan Hastings and Tom Carney reported the humidifier is installed and working well.

Tom purchased the storm window kit and it is installed.

Tom also reported that Donnie Garrett again cleaned out the gutters along the East wall and reported there was no ice build-up as of 12.07.2021.

Duncan reported that Brian Story told him that they were still trying to find someone to fix the Holcomb House porch roof as well as the bracing separation by Donnie's stairs, both identified as building problems at the 11.10.2021 meeting.

Having received no response from Brian Story or the Selectboard to the recent letter to them from Dick, **it was moved, seconded and approved to have Duncan request time of the next Selectboard agenda to give them a Historical Society update and to follow up on the issues and concerns outlined to them following the 11.10.2021 JHS Trustee meeting.** He will also request a standing placement on their agenda similar to the Planning Commission.

JHS Trustees are encouraged to attend the Selectboard meeting. Lois Frey will forward their agenda when it becomes available.

Collections and Program Development:

Collection Committee has delivered two sets of uniforms and one dress to DeNoia's Dry Cleaners. Kelly reported that the military uniforms cleaned up nicely. The one dress cleaned well but the delicate fabric sustained a tear. She has asked Sue Lovering to look it over for repair options. The Committee felt the dresses should not be dry cleaned at this time; but some other option should be considered. The option to remove mold or mildew by placing items in a freezer was discussed. **It was moved, seconded and approved to look into freezer options.** Duncan will put a request on Front Page Forum and Tom will check-out the cost and availability of one a JP's Promising Goods. A test of the freezing process will be tried using the refrigerator freezer in the Carriage Room.

Revenue Development: No report

Membership: Alice prepared a membership letter and the Membership Committee assisted with mailing 124 letters on November 29, 2021. Alice has received 16 replies to date.

Selectboard Communications: See motion to attend upcoming Selectboard meeting.

Strategic Plan timeline: Duncan is working on the spreadsheet, which will be coming soon.

Holcomb House meetings: Considering some of the Covid 19 protocols related to air quality standards in public facilities, would the Holcomb House be a candidate for an assessment and installation of an appropriate air purifying system using Covid 19 funds? Duncan will follow-up. JHS Trustees will continue to meet at the Municipal Building which allows for better social distancing.

Second Floor Occupancy committee report: Committee will meet soon to select a chair person.

Open Meeting Law for sub-committee meetings: It was decided that until written clarification establishes specific requirements, subcommittees should keep notes and report their actions or recommendations at the next JHS Trustee meeting for action or endorsement.

Clarifying who on the Building Committee can expend JHS funds as established in the bylaws, **it was moved, seconded, and approved that the full board authorizes the Chair or his/her designee of the Building, Grounds, and Facility Development Committee to make purchases as needed not exceed \$300.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary