

JOHNSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes
9 March 2022 * 9:00 AM * Holcomb House

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

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

There was one item added to the agenda by Linda Jones, a proposed donation from Aime and Alex Nadeau.

Secretary's Report: **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from 2.9.2022 as printed.**

Treasurer's Report: There was no Treasurer's Report.

Board and Committee member changes:

At the Selectboard meeting on March 2, 2022 Committee appointments were made and approved by the Selectboard. From their minutes included for the Historical Society is Duncan Hastings, JHS member and Eben Patch, Selectboard representative. Following discussion about the appointments, there was concern expressed because the appointment process did not include having the JHS Trustees vet the proposed new appointment (Dean's replacement.) **It was moved, seconded, and approved for the JHS Chair to send a letter to the Selectboard Chair with a cc to Brian Story stating the following: Ask the Selectboard to revisit the appointments to the JHS Board specifically 1) addressing the role of the Selectboard's appointee and 2) clarifying the role of JHS Trustees in recommending candidates when filling a vacancy.**

Administrative Items:

*Holcomb House hosting schedule: With some continued reservations about Covid and the need to re-set some of the exhibits and organize materials in the building, it was decided to wait another month before reopening. Tom Carney and Lois Frey will check with the former host volunteers to check their future availability.

*Social Media:

Webpage: Mary Jean Smith reported that she has not received follow-up contact from Elisa Clancy at 3W Promotions to date. She plans to check-in with Elias Gillen about the proposed video project.

Facebook: Linda reported the Facebook posting featuring past Winter Carnival festivities is receiving comments.

Newsletter: Linda is working with Mary Peet, who has written an article about Johnson's "Donut Man", which she plans to publish in the May newsletter. The announcement brought good memories, which were shared.

Standing Committees:

*Building, Grounds, & Facility Development:

Tom reported that tenant Richard has removed the non-operational car from the Holcomb House parking lot. Also, Don Garrett has been shoveling the front walk and will maintain the ramp prior to each JHS meeting.

*Collections and Program Development: The Committee is Linda, Alice, Kelly, Duncan & Lois. Kelly was unable to schedule a meeting date and time. The Accessioning sub-set of the committee is ready to get started.

More to follow.

*Revenue Development: Dick reported the committee has not met. His primary interest at this time is in coordinating with the JHS Inc. Board. Their Treasurer is JoAnn Benford, who is in the middle of tax season so scheduling may not take place right away.

*Membership: Alice sent a written report (attached with minutes) with the following highlights:

124 Membership letters were sent out with 72 returns as of 8 March 2022.

A total of 58 memberships have been paid from this mailing.

These include:

15 Individual 1 - year memberships

22 Family memberships

12 Senior memberships

4 Business memberships

4 Five - year memberships.

Second Floor Occupancy committee report: Mary Jean reported the committee is scheduled to meet 3.10.2022; although, she received regrets from Eben. They will meet at the Holcomb House at 10 AM. Duncan stated he felt there was a conflict to serving on this committee since being elected to the Selectboard; therefore, he should be replaced. Dick asked anyone with an interest in joining the committee to let him know.

Acquisitions: Linda reported that Aime and Alex Nadeau have volunteered to donate copies of their collection of photographs of their business, which are filed on two flash-drives, to JHS and will also provide an appropriate projection system to make them usable if the Board is interested. There was unanimous agreement to accept the very generous offer. Linda will follow-up.

Duncan reported that Doug and Linda Molde have donated a picture of the Kneeland Farm on Coddling Hollow Road taken in the 1880s. Duncan will have it framed.

Dean brought a poster of the Whippet automobile with a write- up about it. Some remembered the one parked in Henry Parker's basement.

Lois reported she has placed a number of the JHS approved policies in a notebook which will be available in the Holcomb House office.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Recording Secretary