

Johnson Historical Society Meeting Minutes Draft
October 11, 2023, 9 AM
Holcomb House, Johnson Vermont

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

Dick Simays called the meeting to order at 9 AM.

Dick read a resignation letter from Leslie Martin who has resigned from the board because of health concerns. Kelly will take minutes for this meeting, Mary Jean will take minutes in November, while we consider how to fill the Secretary position.

Alice talked about a plaque honoring Memorial gifts. More discussion to follow.

Secretary's Report: It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes from September 13, 2023.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly reported that our recorded income since July 1 is \$4,181.64. Our recorded expense total since July 1 is \$818.12. No checkbook balance was available.

Administrative Items:

1. Holcomb House Hosting Schedule: Dick will take Leslie's place on October 22. Lois will host on November 12. We will be open for the Jubilee in December. Late November and December we will not be open due to the holidays. Mary Jean reported a great turnout for the last opening highlighting our models. Tom also checked the flag holder because some have experienced trouble displaying the open flag.
2. Social Media: The newsletter went out this month. Apologies to Dennis for excluding his name as a board member. Linda will wait a while to post on Facebook since the newsletter just went out.

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Buildings, Grounds and Facilities Development: Mary Jean reported that Lilies donated by Aggie West and Alice Whiting have been planted. She's going to plant tulips and work on a map and labels for the plants. Tom talked about opening Beard's safe and Dick gave a brief status report on the Security Alarm. The Buildings, Grounds and Facilities Development Committee also has been meeting and lining up workers to move forward on occupation of the upstairs of the Holcomb House.
2. Programs and Collections: Alice reported that we are planning an "Antiques Roadshow" program from 1-4 on Saturday, the 28th of October. Meetings are planned by the committee to organize and for publicity. We were invited to participate with the Oven Committee in a Costume party for Johnson's Children on

October 29, but because of our prior planned program, we will not participate. Linda reported the Accessioning Committee has started working in the carriage room. Tom thought we can probably get rid of some of the old canopies stored in the carriage room. Dean and Tom offered Richard Westman pie and a hot dog for storing our Tuesday Night Live trailer at his farm.

3. Revenue Development: No new news.
4. Membership: No new news.

FY 25 Budget Discussion: Dick, Dean and Kelly will meet Wednesday October 25 at 10 AM to work on the new budget. In addition, the Building and Grounds Committee will also draft a list of repairs that need attention at the Holcomb House to include with the submission of our budget. This will be helpful to the Selectboard as they consider their budget. Lois drafted a letter which Dick submitted to the Selectboard asking they consider our funding raising losses due to the flood, when disbursing ARPA funds.

Acquisitions:

1. Bill Perkins donated a gun which was a gift to his father from Andy Partlow who died in 1942. This gun was used at the Turkey Shoot held on Checkerberry field. Bill also donated a miner's lamp and a railroad lantern with an additional amber glass.
2. John Manley donated 2 wooden frames and a 1937 Lamoille County map.
3. Melanie Dennis donated pictures of the 2023 flood and the fire at the Studio Center Church on Main Street. (Old Methodist Church) Items from Bill, John and Melanie were shared by Linda.
4. Dean brought in a green History of Johnson Book which is in great condition. This book was donated by Sandy Ellow.

Other Business:

1. Tom reported he bought a new grill for Tuesday Night Live at Johnson Hardware and Garden. The marked price was \$250, but we were charged \$180, a significant discount.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:02 AM.