

JOHNSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting Minutes

8 November 2023 *9:00 AM * Holcomb House

Present: Dick Simays, Linda Jones, Alice Whiting, Kelly Vandorn, Lois Frey, Mary Jean Smith, Regrets: Dennis Richards. Guests: Dean West, Tom Carney, Donnie Garrett, Tom Galinet (Town Administrator)

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

Additions to Agenda: Town Holiday Jubilee, Purchase of Voice Recorder, Secretarial Support

Secretary's Report: Meeting minutes from 10/11/23. Moved, seconded and approved to accept the October 9, 2023 minutes. Dick reported that Dennis Richards has volunteered to be interim secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly presented Proposed HS budget FY2025 Lois reported that the Antique Roadshow brought in a total of \$561. Which will be donated to the Town Library. Kelly will make a Certificate for Dick to sign, which along with a check will be presented to the library.

Administrative Items:

1. Discussion was held between the Town Administrator Tom Galinat and the HS Board. Items for discussion:
 - a. Selectboard wants a 5% decrease in spending FY 2024
 - b. Reorganize who gives HH attention, Selectboard or Historical Society. Suggests we use same model agreement as Library.
 - c. Steps for Reorganizing:
 1. Prioritize a list of maintenance items for the HH – be sure to get all
 2. Plan for Funding – Where is money coming from
 - a. HH Reserve Fund
 - b. LLC
 - c. Town
 3. Reorganize

Tom G – Keep in mind this would mean HS would remain in control of money and space while remaining entity of Town. Like Library.

2. Social Media: * Facebook had many participants with feedback and questions about the 1927 Flood Facebook presentation.
3. Holcomb House Schedule: Deemed unnecessary to have Open House on Dec. 10, since the HH will be open to public on the 9th for the Holiday Jubilee.
4. Standing Committee Reports:
 - Building and Grounds Committee (Mary Jean, Tom, Dean, Dennis and Donnie) will meet on November 27 concerning action on the following items
 - Calculate actual cost of operation of HS building
 - Put list of priority maintenance items together for Tom G and Selectboard.
 - Kelly will type up list of Maintenance items needing attention that she, Dean, and Dick came up with along with items Tom G added and send to HS members.
 - Put together agreement we would like to see going forward with what Tom G. explained at meeting. Kelly will send a copy of Library agreement to members.
 - Continue working upstairs. Local Electric said they would be in touch at the beginning of December to start electrical work. Mary Jean has phone calls to Seth Manchester and Jesse Winn concerning Painting the upstairs before the beginning of December. She has yet to hear back. Will try again.
5. Collections and Program Development:
 - Linda brought up the need for a voice recorder to be used during interviews. She explained that when interviewing people, it would be important to record and preserve their voices and recordings.
 - Kelly made a motion to spend up to \$300 for voice recorder. Jacob Vandorn will investigate them. It was seconded and approved.
 - Holiday Jubilee - Lois and Mary Jean reported they received an email from Kyle Nuse explaining that she intends to continue the Holiday Jubilee. The date is Saturday, December 9. Linda, Alice and Mary Jean will work on the program at the HH which will include assembling the building models made by David Griswold into a street venue on top of the Beard shelf in West Wing, children's stories read, refreshments.

Mary Jean stated that she would not be available on this date, but that has since been changed, so she will be able to attend.

Revenue Development:

- Lois reported that the antique roadshow event earned \$561. (see Treasurers Report)

Other Business:

1. Dick will send email to Tom G. explaining the need for 2 new members for the HS.
2. Lois investigated secretarial support but deemed not needed since Dennis volunteered to be interim.

Adjourn: Mary Jean had to leave the meeting and someone else finished note taking.

Notetaking by Mary Jean Smith