

Johnson Historical Society Meeting  
9 October 2024 at 9AM  
Holcomb House

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

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

Following review of the agenda no items were added.

Secretary's Report: It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes from September 11, 2024 as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Vandorn reported approving payment of \$150 for the cleaning of the repaired second floor rooms. Kelly reminded all that the 2026 budget request would be due soon. The budget committee (Dean West, Dick Simays and Kelly Vandorn) set a meeting date for October 23, 2024 at 10 AM to prepare the budget.

Administrative Items:

\*Holcomb House hosting schedule 2024:

Friday	October 11th	9 am to noon	Mike Dunham
Sunday	October 27 <sup>th</sup>	2 to 4 pm at Jenna's House*	(Snowflake Bentley program 2 PM)
Friday	November 8 <sup>th</sup>	9 am to noon	Mary Jean Smith
Sunday	November 10 <sup>th</sup>	1 to 3 pm	Lois Frey (Veterans Recognition * Raffle Awards)
Sunday	November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Closed	

Mary Jean mentioned a request for participation at the Jubilee in December. Details will be confirmed at the November meeting.

\*Social Media: Linda Jones reported that the Fall 2024 newsletter has been mailed and she has received positive feedback. Her bad news: Luciana Swenson, who has done the newsletter layout since the first edition (November 2018) will step down after the next newsletter. We will need to find a person with the appropriate technical skills to assist. Luciana will share the templates she created to enable working with Microsoft publisher. Mary Jean volunteered to check with the LNMUU School District and the VSU-Johnson to see if either has capacity and/or student programs that might provide technical skills.

Tuesday Night Review and Wrap-up: Lois Frey reported that \$27 received from excess food sales has been deposited to the JHS account making \$5,032 the total for the TNL season.

Grant Potential Discussion: There was agreement to continue proposing the list previously established for building repairs as Randall Szott checks-out options. Mike Dunham reported that Randall has spoken with his contacts who suggest that an update of the Historic Preservation Conditions Assessment (5.22.2004) would be a good starting point. All agreed. Randall will follow-up.

Standing Committee Reports

\*Buildings, Grounds, and Facility Development: The kitchen has not been cleaned yet although Kelly Vandorn has contacted the Lettieri's about doing it. Lois Frey reported that Blaine White, United States Steamer cleaned and sanitized the stairway carpet on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

\*Collections & Program Development

Collections: Tom Carney asked about the old Town Hall bench. The recommendation is to bring it to the Carriage Room, clean it up, then store it on the second floor. Tom and his helpers will move it.

Program Development: Linda Jones reported the talk about how to clean your attic without destroying history by Elizabeth Dow was well received. Linda has arranged to have access to Jenna's House at 12:30 pm (for set up) for the presentation by Susan Richardson on Snowflake Bentley on October 27<sup>th</sup>. She has made posters for the event.

\*Revenue Development: No news to report.

\*Membership: No report.

#### Acquisitions:

Lois Frey shared a picture, received from the Pittsford Historical Society, which shows the Herbert Huntley family. Herbert married Emily Hall of Johnson VT and their daughter was Florence. Research is needed to document the connection to Johnson.

Linda Jones reported that she and Tom Carney picked up the following items from Mike Thompson: a very old tool chest with hand forged iron and two boxes of tools, which are on loan to JHS; as well as, a donation which includes a double wash tub, a wooden sewing cabinet, a Gettysburg map set, two jasper balls from the Talc Mill, printed duty cards from WW I, a framed print titled *Call to Duty*, and a scrub board.

Linda also received a Parker and Stearns pencil from Bruce and Mary Beard, a Stiles family photo (circa 1915) from Marian Nichols, a bible box and wash board from Dick Cross, and a percussion rifle from John Manley, which included a typed history of the musket/rifle.

It was noted that Mike Dunham's donations of a bedside table, a Plantation desk (May house on Plot Road) , and a scythe have been delivered to the Carriage Room.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

*Next Meeting:* Wednesday, 13 November 2024 at 9 AM at the Holcomb House.

\*The Snowflake Bently program will be held at Jenna's House on 27 October 2024 with the Holcomb House being closed on that date.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lois Frey, Secretary