

Waterbury Historical Society

Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 17, 2019

11:00 Steele Community Room

Present: Barb Farr, Paul Willard, Jan Gendreau, Steve van Esen, Jack Carter, Jim Walton, Betty Jones and Grace Sweet

Guests: Mark and Connie Bryan Tuft

1. Barb Farr opened the meeting with introductions.
2. Mark and Connie Bryan Tuft own the Bryan home on Maple Street with Connie's sister, Pam Bryan. The farmhouse was built in 1830 and purchased by the Bryan family in 1872. Willis Bryan, Connie's father (died in 2007), was one of six children who grew up there. He bought out his siblings' interest in the property. The Tuft's and Connie's sister, Pam Bryan, are interested in preserving the property. Little has changed inside since Willis's grandmother died in 1932. An inventory has been done by Barbara Woodard. They have offered to allow the Waterbury Historical Society to use the space for meetings. Questions: What about liability? Could the WHS curator inventory the collection? The consensus was 1) perhaps WHS could display some items on loan, 2) WHS July 19th board meeting will be held at the Bryan home as Connie and Mark will be in VT and 3) we will plan to hold the summer 2020 meeting on the grounds – not in the house.
3. The Minutes of the April 24th meeting were approved. Paul moved and Jim seconded.
4. Treasurer, Paul Willard, reports that there is \$23,035.90 in the checking account, \$82,777.01 in the T. Rowe Price mutual fund and \$27,298.22 in the capital campaign fund for a total of \$122,111.13. The Past Perfect program will cost \$774 annually. Jack made the motion to take money from the capital campaign for Past Perfect for this year only. Jim 2nd. Approved.

Volunteers cataloging items for Past Perfect may not be totally accurate or complete, so if anyone notices an inaccuracy, contact Barb.

Eight former members have not renewed their membership.

5. A bit of dreaming – not on the agenda. How about building a museum on the footprint of the Bryan dairy barn? Modern, safe and climate controlled and with staffing.????
6. Curator's Report: Jack Carter - Staffed open houses in the museum will be Saturdays, August 31, Sept. 28 and October 26 from 10 – 2. On September 28 we will host the Vermont Historical Society other historical societies from noon to 2 in the Steele Room and invite them to visit the historical displays in the Janes house.

NQID (Not Quite Independence Day) will be on Saturday, June 29 at 4:00 p.m. WHS is invited to participate. The theme is circus. Jan voted yes. Jack will be the lead. The thought is to carry a banner in clown costume. The membership will be contacted by e-mail to see who will participate.

Jack will attend the Downtown Historic Preservation Conference in Montpelier on June 5.

7. Program committee report: Betty Jones - The program committee will meet on May 21. The summer program and pot luck picnic will be at the Hope Davey Park in the Center. Brownies and Ben and Jerry's ice cream will be furnished. The entertainment will be The Lamoille River Swingers, a square dance group.

The Yankee Brass Band, a highly regarded group, will perform on July 17 at 7 p.m. for \$800. The group felt that the best venue would be Thatcher Brook Elementary School – the painted curtain can be unrolled. Admission would be by donation. Betty plans to get some sponsors to help defray the cost. Barbara Farr volunteered to make programs with information provided by the committee. Much publicity is needed.

8. Archivist: Tracy Haether not present – no report. Past Perfect is online.
9. Ghost Walk: Jan Gendreau - Paul Willard will be the Emcee. The walk will be at the Maple Street cemetery in Waterbury Center. Those remembered will be Rex Morse Herbert Hunt Jr., George Woodard Sr. and Neil Fisher. Guides will be Jack Carter, Jane Willard, Grace Sweet and either Jan or Cheryl Casey.
10. Outreach Education Committee: Jane Willard not present – no report.
11. Newsletter: Cheryl Casey - Cheryl was not present. We think the newsletter will come out in early July. Barbara will check.
12. Other business: The rail sales from the Mt. Mansfield rail sold very well. Brian Lindner had the rail. He cut it into bookend size pieces. Jan urethaned them – very attractive.
Two gifts were received from Charlie Grenier: 1) a photo of Smith's store at the south end of Main Street and 2) a picture of Roy Demeritt, the owner of the cannery and clothespin manufactory.
13. Meeting adjourned at 12:45. The next meeting will be on June 21 at 11:00 in the SAL room in the library.

Notes respectfully submitted by Grace Sweet