

Waterbury Historical Society Board Meeting – January 17, 2020

Present: Barb Farr, Steve VanEsen, Jim Walton, Betty Jones, Jack Carter, Cheryl Casey, Jan Gendreau, Anne Imhoff, Paul Willard and Grace Sweet Guest: Jane Willard

Minutes of the November 15, 2019 meeting were approved. The motion was made by Paul Willard and seconded by Anne Imhoff.

Outreach Committee: Jane Willard

a) **Update of history book project** covering the last 20 years. A table of contents has been drafted. The group has submitted a proposal to **The History Press**, a partner with Arcadia Publishing based in Charleston, S.C. Cindy Parks is the contact person with Mike Kinsella of THP. The present plan is to make a book of between 120-140 pages with about 50 black and white photos. Color photos would nearly triple the cost. There is an option to have two color photos (gray or brown) which would add some cost and/or a color cover. A contract was sent to Cindy and Jane on 1/7/2020 – due on Feb. 20, 2020. The plan is to have 400 copies printed for \$4,398.00 – WHS will need to pay \$879.00 (20%) down at the time the contract is signed by Barb Farr. WHS will pay for Fed Ex shipping. We might like to have The History Press keep some books in storage, however, there may be a cost to WHS. A motion was made by Jim Walton to authorize Barb Farr to enter into a contract for not more than \$10,000 with The History Press. Steve VanEsen seconded. Approved. Mike suggested that 20% of the book recount Waterbury's past, however, several other books chronicle Waterbury's past. Rather, a timeline may be included.

b) **Outreach Education** - The committee is doing activities with the Senior Center folks monthly on a Friday. January 17, today – a video of the Waterbury Special Installation. On February 14, we will do a van tour to some of the historic sites in downtown Waterbury. Jane has contacted Denise Goodnow, the principal of the Thatcher Brook School, but, no response. Jane will ask if Seniors could attend the Wax Museum event at TBPS in the spring. The Wax Museum is when students share what they have learned about notable Waterbury folk.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Willard

The checking account balance is \$32,964.53. The T. Rowe Price Mutual Fund is \$90,852.90. The Capital Campaign is \$31157.75 for a grand total of \$154,975.18.

Expenses - \$1213 has been spent for spot lighting of paintings in the Steele Room. The Annual Appeal brought in \$7500.05. After expenses the total is \$6993.35. We have 213 members.

Proposed Budget: The income and the total numbers are correct. The amount for meeting space is to be increased from \$50 to \$100. \$500 will be allocated for updating the brochure. Jim made a motion that the total budget be \$23,500. Grace seconded. Approved. The proposed budget will be presented at the April 22 annual meeting.

Oak tree: A large red oak tree was removed from Main Street due to reconstruction of the street. John Monks of Vermont Tree Goods in Bristol has cut several slabs from the oak. Do we want a table made from the oak? Or a really nice podium? The oak slabs are drying at his facility.

Curator: Jack Carter

Lives to Live By – Waterbury Women. Jack has chosen some bios of Waterbury women from the scrap book that was put together twelve years ago. He will display them in a public area in the Municipal Complex. He is hoping for some updates and/or new women to honor.

Lighting has been installed in the Steele Room. Three photos have been taken to Axel's to be remounted: Harry Whitehill in Washington D.C., an 1864 Town Report and Fanny Butler Janes for a total of \$120.

Jack has received an email from MaryAnn Tuft from Chicago. She was a friend of Alice Robinson who was the head of nursing education at the Waterbury State Hospital.

David Schutz, Curator of the State House, has some Waterbury State Hospital items that WHS might like to reclaim.

Draft Annual Report for Town Meeting by Barb Farr – it will be submitted

Program Committee: Betty Jones

The **January 22** Program will be in the Steele Room. The topic is the Mt. Mansfield Electric Railroad by Skip Flanders.

April 22 – Howard Coffin through the Vermont Humanities – Women in the Civil War -\$75 plus mileage – in the Steele Room.

July 22– at the Bryan Farm on Maple Street in Waterbury Center. Mark Tuft will be the presenter.

October – Vermont Humanities – Jill Mudgett, a cultural historian, will present Murder in the Vermont Woods.

Other possibilities: Skip is researching info about 51 S. Main St., the former Town Office building. Betsy Ayers has found a book from the 1920's Waterbury Men's Club. She has given the book to Skip which may lead to a project on groups which once were active.

Anne Imhoff has drafted a **survey** to be used at programs for feedback. Information for becoming a member will be added at the bottom.

Newsletter: Cheryl Casey is looking for articles. Next deadline – Feb. 15.

Other: Past Perfect – everything that has been catalogued is on Past Perfect. Some picture frames need to be deaccessioned. Jack, Anne and Jan are the deaccessioners.

Nominating Committee: Jim Walton, chair. Terms expiring: Jim, Steve and Grace. Meeting adjourned at 12:45.

Notes by Grace Sweet