

Waterbury Historical Society Board ZOOM Meeting

March 17, 2021

Present: Cheryl Casey, Jane and Paul Willard, Jan Gendreau, Jack Carter, Anne Imhoff, Jim Walton, Bill Woodruff and Grace Sweet Copies to: Betty Jones and Carla Lawrence
Guests: Champlain Seniors, Benjamin Nicholas and Connor Greene

Minutes of the Feb. 17 meeting approved with one correction: the amount paid to the town for Leanne Viens recompense was \$1543.23, not \$3000. Moved by Paul, seconded by Jack.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Willard: Membership number 227. Capital Campaign: \$30,777.57, Checking: \$42,232.96, T. Rowe Price: \$107,700.37 and a donation of \$250 from the Marshall Carney Charitable Fund. Expenses: \$195 paid to Elaine Billado for her work on the book which is in progress. Total on hand: \$180,703.90.

Gift: Dick Aylward has made a deed of gift of a 1946 program of Don Fields and the Pony Boys and a violin of Don's in its case. Paul has written a thank you to Dick.

Jack moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Jan seconded. Approved.

Book – Jane Willard: The book is coming together. The fact checkers are nearly done. Elaine Billado has significant editorial abilities. The committee is looking for gaps. Soon they will send out release forms for print and photos to the authors. The publisher is happy with the progress. Jack has done a time-line, Cheryl will do a preface.

Outreach – Jane: Anne Hutchinson, fourth grade teacher at Thatcher Brook, is doing a then and now project with photos of Stowe Street. Skip Flanders fact checked.

The group is sending flyers twice a month with historical information to recipients of Meals on Wheels. Margo Metayer sent a short bio on Horace Fales and a photo and question regarding an item that is on display in the History Museum that we have not, as yet, identified.

Grace Sweet will do two flyers for April.

Program: Betty Jones was not present. July picnic at Bryan's hopefully. August – perhaps a tour of the State Office Complex partnering with Revitalizing Waterbury in remembering the tenth anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene. A bio of Dr. Rupert Chittick, Superintendent of the State Hospital might be a topic for a future newsletter.

Ben Nicholas and Connor Greene, Seniors at Champlain are working on a video of Waterbury's weathering of Tropical Storm Irene. They are narrowing down contacts, working on an overview. The video will be interview dependent with the first-round next week. They will film, then edit. The completion date is April 23. They will create a script following the footage.

The video will be part of the remembrance of the storm scheduled for late August.

Ghost Walk – Jan Gendreau: could include video outreach for those unable to be present. It will be an outdoor event at Hope Cemetery. A possible person to remember could be Celia Bryant whose father was Lorenzo Bryant, a logger and carpenter and Eliza. She became an embalmer. Another possibility is Charles Daggs. The theme might be “Broken Boundaries” and might include suffragists.

Curator – Jack Carter: Leann Viens is back at work today.

Should we have a lawn sale of duplicate items as part of the Irene events? Should we open up the sale to WHS members as well? Or should we box the items up and send them to an auction house in Burlington?

Could we have a shallow display case made for the Steele Room to hold a frequently changing collection of artifacts? Clothespins from DeMerritts etc.?

Newsletter – Cheryl Casey: The featured figure will be Florilla Ames who turned 110 on this day. Bill Woodruff will ask Charlotte Strausser if she will write an article regarding Don Fields and the Pony Boys as she has the WDEV connection. Jane will ask Chris Palermo if he will write an article on Karen Steele for the summer newsletter. Our Facebook site has had over 400 views. Cheryl attended a Rotary meeting where Amanda Gustin from the Vermont Historical Society presented information on how VHS has used technology to reach an audience in this time of COVID.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 21 at 6:30. Connor and Ben will be back

Notes by Grace Sweet