

Waterbury Historical Society Board Meeting – September 21, 2021

Present: President, Cheryl Casey, Paul and Jane Willard, Jan Gendreau, Anne Imhoff, Bill Woodruff, Betty Jones and Grace Sweet
Copies to Jim Walton, Carla Lawrence, LeeAnne Viens and Sandy Hough

Minutes of August 17 taken by Cheryl: Moved to accept by Paul, seconded by Jan. Accepted

Treasurer's Report: Paul – 226 members

Checking account balance: \$41,798.82, T. Rowe Price: \$115,736.32, Capital Campaign: \$30,777.01 for a total of \$188,312.15. The Post Office Box annual rent of \$162 has been paid. Bill made the motion to accept, Jan seconded. Accepted..

Program Committee: Betty reports that the committee will meet Oct. 4 in the library. It is planned that Howard Coffin will present his program on Women and the Civil War on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Steele Room. Masks are required.

The Annual WHS general membership meeting will happen at the beginning of program. The nominating committee: Bill Woodruff and Jim Walton will present their slate for secretary, vice president and a member at large. Duties of nominees will be made clear. The budget for the next year will be presented.

Betty gave Cheryl a list of all the programs that she has helped to organize from 2004-2020.. She also gave Cheryl a list of the programs done at the History Expo. The event began in 1999 when Cabot Creamery suggested that the central VT historical societies hold open houses in their own buildings. Waterbury's first display was of Dr. Janes, the railroad and Waterbury's governors. The second was of Dr. Janes – both done by Betty and Donna Boring. The one in 2001 was done with Jack Carter and all the subsequent ones – always with Jack's peonies. The majority of the expos were held at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Vermont Historical Society.

Outreach Committee: Jane – we are planning monthly presentations at the Senior Center. On September 17 Skip Flanders and the committee presented a program on Don Fields and the Pony Boys. Dick Aylward, Don's step-son, gave WHS one of Don Fields' violins and a number of posters, letters and booklets. Margo Sayah played several of the groups' musical selections and told some of their jokes. About thirty people attended.

The plan for October 15 is to tour some of the local backroads: Perry Hill, Loomis, Gregg, and Kneeland stopping along the way to point out places of interest. It is hoped that we will be able to use the van owned by the town for recreational use.

The new book needs a few tweaks and will soon be ready for printing.

New Computer: Paul – Computer Barn has not responded with a quote. Need to be sure that a new computer will be able to accommodate Past Perfect without losing info. The alternative is to purchase one from Bob Butler.

Sandy Hough, our cataloger, is paid by the town, we pay LeeAnne Viens, the office manager. Jack Carter was the Curator, the archivist is no longer with us.

Questions: should the curator be in charge of accession/deaccession and work with physical items only? Does the archivist photograph and digitally record? We need formalized job descriptions that include expectations and responsibilities and a feed back loop. After much discussion we decided to invite Kay Schlueter from Northfield to come to our meeting on November 16 help us formulate a plan that includes training. Jan will contact Kay. There are CDs for training folks on Past Perfect. On Wednesday, October 6, several board members plan to meet with LeeAnne and Sandy.

Donations: Items have been given by Dick Aylward re: Don Fields, Phil Baker has given some items from Newton Baker's family, RW has donated the **Thank You, Volunteers** banner from Irene plus the tiles re: the flood and M.K. Monley would like to donate the tiles done by elementary students.

Bridgeside Books has given us the money for the books that they sold and returned the unsold books.

The Women in Waterbury display beautifully put together by Jack Carter, will be at the History Center in Montpelier from November through January.

Next Meeting: October 19 at 4:30 – proposed budget, nominations, ballot, book, curator.

Notes by: Grace Sweet