

## Waterbury Historical Society Board Meeting

January 18, 2022

**Present:** Cheryl Casey, Jill Chase, Bill Woodruff, Paul and Jane Willard, Skip Flanders, Anne Imhoff, Jan Gendreau, Joe Camaratti and Grace Sweet

**Minutes** of December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting – Clarification re: Don Fields violin that was examined by Thurmond Knight – it might have been made by Arthur Chamberlain, but there is no proof. Paul moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Anne seconded. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paul – 233 members. Total of all accounts is \$191,735.60. WHS has reimbursed the town for LeeAnne Viens' salary: \$3000. \$2805 has been received from the annual appeal (which was included in the Fall/Winter newsletter) and \$435 has been received for membership renewal (also in the newsletter).

The new history book, **A New Century in Waterbury, Vermont**, published by History Press has arrived from the printers: 17 cases – 400 books. They are upstairs in the history center thanks to Bill. WHS allocated \$10,000 for the book, \$3,563.88 is left.

A **thank you note** has been received from Waterbury Arts for our donation to the Phoenix Rising mural that was installed on the tenth anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene.

**Security cameras:** three of the seven are not working. Open Eyes (brand name) were installed by Pro-tech in 2015 and are outdated. The cost to replace them is \$3,316 and includes the annual maintenance fee of \$700 for the first year. The wiring is in place. One is near the round table, one in the Janes area, one in the stairway, three in the big room and one in the small upstairs room. Training would be included. Joe will review the proposal which is good for 30 days from Jan 6. Questions – who monitors the cameras? Bill has reviewed some of the tapes. Should we check the tapes more regularly? Should there be a monitor in the history office? Bill will contact Chad Clark of Waterbury Center who works for Safety Tech to see what he might be able to offer.

**Program:** Skip reports that the January program on Don Fields is on hold due to COVID. Material is still coming in in re: the Pony Boys. They are thinking they might arrange for a Saturday afternoon perhaps at St. Leo's. There would be no charge since Bill is a member of St. Andrew's. Ed Lemery and a couple of others are planning to play some of Don Fields tunes.

**Outreach:** Jane reports that the group's plan is to present one program a month for folks at the Senior Center. Presently the Center is closed due to COVID and Vicki Brooker has resigned. We are writing a one page paper monthly on history highlights to be sent to recipients of Meals on Wheels. No word from the schools about what we might do or when.

**Book:** A New Century in Waterbury, Vermont - The book committee members are Jane, Laura Parette and Anne Imhoff. They are planning an outdoor launch party with refreshments in the library parking lot on a Sunday afternoon in early May. The contributors to the book and those who wrote articles that could not be included will be invited. Eleana Billodeau is working on putting the submissions that did not go in the book on the website. All 80 folks who wrote articles will be offered the book at \$12.00 – our cost. The students who wrote articles re: their COVID experience will be given complimentary copies using some of the \$500 awarded to us by Revitalizing Waterbury. For the general public the cost will be \$25. Should we offer the opportunity to pay via VenMo? Joe will look into the cost of that option. The History Press has already distributed copies of the book to Costco, Amazon, Barnes and Noble and some pharmacies and some local bookstores. Remainders will go back to History Press and will be offered to us at a discounted rate. So --- we need to begin to promote the book.

**History Center:** LeeAnn Viens wonders if the High School and other **yearbooks** could be stored in the bookshelves by the round table for better access. Where would the items stored there go? Paul has duplicate **keys** which are all labeled. (Following this meeting he has turned the keys over to the office manager: 4 keys to storage units in Waterbury Center, 2 keys to office door, 1 key to P.O. Box 708, 2 keys to upstairs slide curtain, 1 key AA9 to storage in History Center, 13 keys to cabinet doors, 2 keys to desk in office.) Jan has keys to the storage units. Bill has a key to the building and one to the triangular closet upstairs. Paul will confer with LeeAnn and Sandy Hough about keys to open the building.

Jill, Jan, Cheryl, Anne and LeeAnn met (by chance) with Bob Butler regarding **computer** needs. He suggests a laptop for mobility – options: Microsoft Surface Pro or Acer Swift 5. Need to have 4 USB ports for the scanner and printer. Joe and Paul will meet on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 1:00 the History Center to look at the computers.

Should we accept 25 issues of the Vermont Magazine from 1928-1945 from Kendall Stafford? They are not Waterbury specific. Answer: no.

Anne and Jan have started to **inventory the closet** – should they dispose of town reports as the town has bound copies since 1894 in the vault. Consensus – don't keep them if the town has copies. Skip suggests selling them on EBay. We could try to sell some at the summer picnic. Need to keep in mind – 1) is the item a duplicate?, 2) is it in good condition?, 3) does it fit with the theme?, and 4) is it authentic? Grace made a motion to remove the duplicate town and village reports. Jan seconded. Approved. Anne made a motion to ask the town clerk if the town wants the reports prior to 1894, 6-10 are framed. They need archival backing. Jan seconded. Approved. Jan will speak to Carla Lawrence, the town clerk. Anne and Jan will bring items to the board each month for decisions. What about the copies of the Waterbury Record? It has been digitized in the State Archives and is on-line.

**New Business:** Jan – begin to think about the Ghost Walk – theme and place.

**Next Meeting:** February 15 at 4:30

Notes by: Grace Sweet