

Waterbury Historical Society Board Meeting on ZOOM March 15, 2022

Present: President, Cheryl Casey, Bill Woodruff, Jane and Paul Willard, Anne Imhoff, Jan Gendreau, Jill Chase, Joe Camaratta and Grace Sweet
Copies to: Carla Lawrence, Skip Flanders and Sandy Hough

Minutes from February 15: Add that the meeting was on ZOOM. Jill moved to accept, Anne 2nd. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Paul - 235 members Checking account: \$41,914.98, T. Rowe Price Mutual Fund: \$102,184.73 and the Capital Campaign: \$30,786.00 for a total of \$174,885.71. We allocated \$10,000 for expenses for the new book: A New Century in Waterbury, Vermont. \$4897.38 remains, but we have not been billed for the expense of shipping and handling.

Skip will be at the History Center this Wednesday, March 16, from 1-3 to sell books. Otherwise, folks can buy them at the Senior Center and at Garfield's Beauty Salon or from Jane and Paul at their home.

Katya, the owner of Bridgeside Books, has invited us to set up a table outside her shop on April 30 as a featured non-profit. (We will need to do it in the morning as the program on Don Fields and the Pony Boys is set for April 30 at 1:00.) She has again offered to host public readings from the book. Jane and Laura Parette are interested in following up on the offer.

We can sell books at the Farmer's Market and at the Arts Fest. Anne will advertise on Front Porch Forum.

Anne made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Jan 2nd. Approved.

Program: Skip was absent, but he reports that the April 30th program will be held at St. Leo's Hall at 1:00. There will be fiddlers to play some of Don Fields most beloved music. The Army Band will play on August 6 at 3 at the Rusty Parker Park. A later program will be about the Main Street reconstruction complete with artifacts. Paul made a motion to donate \$50.00 to St. Leo's for use of the hall. Jill 2nd. Approved.

Outreach Ed: Jane reported that the Senior Center has not reached out to us and we have not heard from the schools. The committee will meet soon to plan how to proceed.

(Side note: Paul Abare visited the History Museum. He is interested in military history.)

President's Report: Cheryl – The newsletter is at the printers and the on-line version is ready to go. Cheryl has not yet purchased a new computer because she needs to speak to a person during business hours re: the tax-exempt status. Sandy Hough wonders if she could have the old computer. Paul made a motion saying that she could, Jill 2nd, approved. Someone will wipe the information from that computer.

Accession/deaccession: Anne reports that at the next Board meeting they will bring boxes of stuff to the Steele Room for action by the board. Anne and Jan had a tutorial from Kay Schulter re: Past Perfect.

Office Manager: LeeAnne Viens was hired for five hours per week, she responded to inquiries and wrote thank you notes. Cheryl has been answering e-mails which takes, maybe, two hours a week.

Jane suggests that we rethink the position, perhaps making it a twenty hour a week position to include curating and archivist duties. The group concurred. Jill and Cheryl will work on writing guidelines for cataloging, scanning and writing information for Past Perfect entries. Need documentation and oversight. (Past Perfect was instituted by Linda Kaiser, subsequent entries have not been consistent, but can be fixed.)

Survey: Cheryl sent a survey to board members and past presidents asking folks to name strengths of WHS, challenges, actions to address challenges, where do we see WHS in five years and what goals to set for that time? So far, need stronger internal communication and more effective searchable means to access info. Strength in programming, quality collection with import and impact beyond out town borders. One thought is to use available technologies to disseminate info and perhaps more programming on the website including video presentations.

New Business: A street in Witchita, KS is to be named for Solomon Kohn, Steve VanEsen's grandfather. A memorial service will be held for Steve at the Rusty Parker Park on May 25.

A service will be held there, as well, for John Sherman. Stan Amadon died March 14, 2022.

Cemetery Walk: Amy Kinsell, a new cemetery commissioner, will be a speaker. Brian Lindner will speak about the Ricker Mountain cemetery. Elena Billodeau might be a contact for a student speaker for the Legion portion of the event. Jan will contact her.

Notes by: Grace Sweet