

Wilmington Historical Society

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Wilmington Community Center

Attendees

Karen Peters

Merri Peck

Judy Lawrence

Guy Stephenson

Nancy Cressey

Bob Cressey

Jess Ano

The Audit Committee met at 6:00pm and began reviewing the treasurer's records. It was decided that the audit committee will reconvene to complete the review at some time prior to the next regular business meeting. Karen Peters called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Karen began our open discussion on "Community Celebrations Then & Now." Karen began the discussion by showing slides of many early town celebrations, including the Inauguration and Dedication of the Wilmington Whiteface Highway, Owaissa Club parties and school parties. We also discussed the 1958 dedication of the Whiteface Ski Center, the town wide celebration held every year at Santa's Workshop, church festivals and celebrations and the Northern NY Firemen's Races among others.

At the conclusion of the discussion the business meeting commenced. Guy Stephenson moved to accept the March minutes as read and his motion was seconded by Merri Peck. All voted in favor. Karen then presented treasurer's reports for February and March. As of April 1, 2019 our bank balances were as follows:

Operating Account	\$3,403.69
Zachay Memorial	2,000.00
Adirondack Foundation	49,357.97
Building Fund Transfer Account	123.00
Keegan Building Construction Money Market	59,125.76

Guy moved to approve the February report and Bob seconded the motion. It carried unanimously. Then Bob moved to accept the March Report, Guy seconded and again the motion was approved unanimously. Karen advised us that she will be meeting with H&R Block in April to get our IRS Form 990 completed. She then passed out copies of our approved operating budget for 2019 to all present.

Karen sent a thank you letter to Alvin Schaut for donating an antique post card of High Falls Gorge. She also sent a thank you to Dennis Keegan for his very generous contribution to the construction fund for the future Wilmington Historical Society Ruth and Thomas Keegan Memorial History Center. Numerous thank you letters were sent to other contributors as well. Karen also sent a thank you to our town supervisor for his support of the Essex County Arts Council. The Museum Association of New York sent the WHS a thank you letter for renewing our membership in the organization.

We received a phone call from an individual seeking information about Jimmie Johnston who was an artist at the North Pole during the 40s and 50s. We acquired a historical post card of High Falls Gorge in 1902.

The next meeting of the Library, Museum and Historical Sites Committee will be April 16th from 10am to 1pm.

We have a program schedule set for 2019 and Karen is working to get the flyer out. Our next open discussion is "The Beginning of Wilmington to 1860." Karen sent a photo for March to the Lake Placid News. The photo was of a sleigh stuck in the Wilmington Notch about 1900. The town newsletter went out recently and the WHS column included lots of information about the Whiskey Run and Heritage Celebration. Karen has

completed grant applications to the Essex County Arts Council and Humanities New York. The Wilmington Whiteface Whiskey Run and Heritage Festival will take place Saturday, June 15th.

WHS will again provide certificates for free memberships to new residents at the Newcomers Dinner.

We have an election coming up in June. Nominations will be accepted for President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and one trustee position currently held by Linda Joss-Dyke. Nancy Cressey reported that our membership for 2019 currently stands at 79, which is very good for this early in the membership drive.

Karen announced that Steve Peters is starting a new grant writing business called Elevate 518. He has offered to work pro bono for the WHS.

Guy Stephenson said he is planning to do some cleaning of headstones for the Cemetery Committee.

We currently have three presenting sponsors for the Whiskey Run. They are Haselton Lumber, Owaissa Club and Pourman's Tap House. The Little Supermarket will sponsor at the Bourbon Level (\$500). Preparations are going well for vendors, grants and required permissions. The newspaper ad in ADK Sports will be coming out Monday.

We received a report from our webmaster Patrick McIntyre that we had 135 visitors to our website in February.

WHS has an opportunity to receive \$250 from Iron Man if we can provide a set number of volunteers for the race. Karen will keep a list of volunteers. Dave Fitz-Gerald has written a new book and requests that we review it. Karen will email the manuscript to anyone who will agree to review it.

Guy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Bob. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Cressey
Secretary
Wilmington Historical Society