

Wilmington Historical Society

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Online Meeting via Zoom

Attendees

Karen Peters

Susan Albert

Gil Dyke

Linda Joss-Dyke

Jess Ano

Nancy Cressey

Karen Peters called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. There was no open discussion since we held the meeting online due to COVID 19 restrictions. Gil Dyke made a motion to accept the October minutes as read. Susan Albert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Susan then discussed the treasurer's report. Our bank balances as of October 31st are as follows:

Operating Account	\$10,933.61
Building Transfer Fund Account	128.00
Zachay Memorial Account	2,000.00
Keegan Memorial Building Construction Fund	90,701.36
Petty Cash Fund	89.54
Adirondack Foundation Account	47,494.41

Susan reported that the increase in our operating account deposits were mostly from memberships that came in due to the reminder and a \$500 grant from the Town of Wilmington. The largest expenditure for the month was actually a transfer of \$2500 to the Keegan building fund. The ADK Foundation account decreased by \$1,023 during October due to market fluctuation. The current Annual Appeal balance is \$8,055, up \$31 from September. We currently have \$5,442 in matching funds due from Dennis Keegan. Linda Joss-Dyke moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jess Ano seconded her motion. It carried unanimously.

Susan also reported that she attended the Capital Campaign webinar series sponsored by Tech Soup Grant Station. The three webinars were: "Are You Ready for a Capital Campaign?," "Essential Capital Campaign Preparations" and "The Stages and Challenges to Expect During a Capital Campaign." She will send the slides and audio recordings from the webinars to the board members and schedule a meeting to discuss the material. Susan also attended an ADK Foundation Donor Investment meeting co-sponsored with the Vanguard Investment Group. The long term investment with the best return is 70% equity/30% fixed income, ADK Foundation plans to offer additional investment opportunities based on length of investment. For the time being our current 5+ year investment offers the best rate of return. We can reevaluate our investment needs as we get closer to moving into our permanent home.

Karen reported that she had difficulty with our printers. The waste ink reservoir was full and apparently Epson programs the printers so that you have to buy a key to reset in addition to replacing the reservoir. Karen said she will write a letter to Epson to voice her displeasure over their ploy to try to force customers to buy a new printer.

Karen then reported on Communications. She sent thank you notes to Laurie George And Joe and Ellie McAvoy for folding all of our Annual Appeal letters. She sent a thank you letter to the town of Wilmington, the Town Supervisor and the Town Board for the \$500 grant and for our new space in the Community Center. Thank you letters were sent to town employees Travis Holzer, Brett Durant, Scott Lawrence, Don Hoover, Louie Adragna and John Langford, who put in their time and effort preparing our new space and moving our cabinets.

We got a letter of thanks from Keeseville Historic Bridges for signing their petition.

We received a donation through our website to the building fund. The individual who donated spoke to Guy Stephenson and offered to do a presentation on the War of 1812.

We had a query about a photo at Mt. Van Hoevenberg which Guy Stephenson was able to answer. Someone else asked what information we had about the 1964 Hill Climb and sent us a digital copy of the Mohawk Hudson Chapter of the Sports Car Club of America results.

We received a Whiteface Mountain Veterans Memorial Highway medallion and some old Wilmington postcards from Rarilee Conway.

Karen reported for the Library, Museum and Historic Sites Committee that the WHS has moved downstairs in the Community Center to a new dedicated space. The town helped us greatly by moving walls, painting and moving our cabinets. We still need some metal shelving. Susan reported that she found some stainless steel shelving with plastic covering over adjustable shelves which we could purchase for about \$150.

Karen reported for the Planning and Programs Committee that she is still working on the Facebook updates, trying to get money for the WHS. She has been advertising in the Jay Community News and on our post office bulletin board for Amazon Smile to get people to donate to the WHS when they shop. Our input for the Town Newsletter is due this week.

Nancy Cressey reported for the Membership and Nominations Committee that so far we have received 16 membership renewals in response to the reminder letters. Total membership now stands at 144.

Linda reported on fundraising. She will call Steve Peters about setting up a virtual race in the event we can't do the Whiskey Run again this year. Possibly we could still do the Heritage Festival.

Work is proceeding on the Historical Markers project. There are two categories of markers supported by the Pomeroy Foundation—Legends and Lore, and NY State Historical Markers. One topic for Legends and Lore is the story of Asa Lawrence sliding down the log chute on a shovel, Karen will do the research, Tony Beck will be the writer and Susan Albert will prepare the submission. The NY State Historical Markers are more difficult because proof is required.

We are hiring Smart Site Designs to do our new website. Karen applied for and received a grant of \$1,500 from SUNFUND in partnership with the Lake Placid Foundation to pay for the website. We want to set up an online exhibit and store because of COVID.

We will meet on Wednesday, November 11 to get our Annual Appeal letters ready to go out. We will have a donate button put on our website for the Annual Appeal, but we will not put one on Facebook unless they release our money.

Karen attended a Facebook webinar to gain ideas for use of videos and photos and targeting your audience.

Future meetings are scheduled for January 6th, February 3rd, March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd, July 7th, August 4th, September 1st, October 6th, and November 3rd.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn and Gil seconded it. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Cressey
Secretary