

Wilmington Historical Society
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
Wilmington Community Center

Attendees

Karen Peters
Gil Dyke
Linda Joss-Dyke
Susan Albert
Merri Peck
Laurie George
Nancy Cressey
Judy Lawrence

Karen Peters called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. There is no open discussion for this meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions. Linda Joss-Dyke moved to accept the minutes for the September meeting and Laurie George seconded her motion. It carried unanimously.

Susan Albert presented the treasurer's report. Our bank balances as of September 30th are as follows:

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| Operating Account | \$10,760.30 |
| Building Fund Transfer Account | 128.00 |
| Zachay Memorial Account | 2,000.00 |
| Keegan Memorial Building Construction Fund | 138,280.21 |
| Mountain Valley FCU Savings Account | 100.03 |

The Operating Account increased by \$1,179 over the past month, primarily due to the \$2,200 grant from Adirondack Foundation, \$825 from raffle ticket sales, and smaller amounts from book and merchandise sales, memberships and donations. Disbursements of \$2,052 included \$1,140 for the Legends and Lore sign, and \$700 for music to accompany the sign, both of which were covered by grants received in July. Additional disbursements included \$76 payout to winner of 50/50 raffle, \$58 for postage, \$57 for bank deposit tickets and \$22 for anti-virus software. Laurie George moved to accept the Treasurer's report and her motion was seconded by Gil Dyke. All voted in favor.

The \$2500 grant we received for the 2020 Heritage Festival will be moved forward to 2022. We have \$950 left on our website contract, but additional funds will be required due to the broadened scope of the contract. We need to get that amount from Marisol Sauer. Susan then made a motion to move \$3,500 from our operating account into the building fund so those funds can be matched. Merri Peck seconded her motion and all voted in favor.

Karen reported on communications. The Volunteerism grant check from Iron Man was returned to them twice because they sent it to the wrong address. Karen is working on getting that straightened out. She sent invitations out to State Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman jMatt Simpson and the town board members to attend the unveiling of our new Legends and Lore sign on October 3rd. She also sent thank you notes to Assemblyman Matt Simpson for attending our program and to the library for donating the piece of the cannon that was blown up by mistake many years after the 1850 Cannon Prank took place.

We had an inquiry about a historic house on Springfield Road. Karen found some information about the obsidian that the recently found arrowhead was made from. It came from Oregon, indicating that there must have been trade going on among the various tribes. The E.M. Cooper Library donated the piece of the cannon to the WHS. We also received donations of some digital photos for the 911 archives.

Merri reported for the Library, Museum and Historical Sites Committee. People have been asking her for the song about the cannon prank. It is on the website in the archives but we need an easier fast link for new items so people can find them readily.

Karen reported for the Publications and Programs Committee that open discussions for 2021 are postponed due to Covid restrictions. We had two successful programs since our last meeting, "Wilmington History on September 11th" at the Festival of Colors and the Legends and Lore Cannon Prank sign unveiling. The new sign should be added to our walking tour map. Karen reported that the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (ROOST) is looking for a new tag line.

Patrick McIntyre indicated an interest in providing funds for grave stone repairs. Karen will check to see if the town is still supposed to be funding cemetery repairs. In the past they have not spent money that was budgeted for this purpose.

There will be a meeting of the town's 200th anniversary planning committee this month. Judy Lawrence had an idea for a tree with Wilmington family branches. People would be able to tack leaves with their names on their family branch. Merri agreed to come up with a list of the Wilmington families.

WHS will make a donation of \$50 to "Trunk or Treat" which will be held at the KOA this year. Linda will check to see if we have any volunteers who are able to participate.

Our Annual Appeal letter should be written by our next meeting. Susan pointed out that the letter needs to be different this year. We are at a different stage in the process and we need to be transparent with potential donors to let them know what progress has been made and what our goals are.

Susan mentioned that a year end course is being offered for annual fund raising. Karen is attending a webinar on Friday about funding for small museums. The Adirondack Foundation is holding its annual meeting for fund holders on Friday also. Susan will try to attend.

Linda moved to adjourn and Merri seconded her motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Cressey
Secretary