

Wilmington Historical Society

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Wilmington Community Center

Attendees

Karen Peters

Susan Albert

Merri Peck

Laurie George

Nancy Cressey

Guy Stephenson

Karen Peters called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Merri made a motion to accept the October minutes as read 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:

Operating Account	\$7,893.25
Building Fund Transfer Account	128.00
Zachay Memorial Account	2,000.00
Keegan Memorial Building Construction Fund	138,478.88
Mountain Valley FCU Savings Account	100.03
Adirondack Foundation Account	54,128.14

The Operating Account decreased by \$2,867 during October, largely due to the transfer of \$3,500 to the building fund. Receipts included a \$900 Iron Man volunteerism grant, \$735 from membership dues and smaller amounts from fundraising. The largest disbursements were the \$3,500 funds transfer and \$933 for the website contract balance. Nancy Cressey moved to accept the Treasurer's report and her motion was seconded by Guy Stephenson. All voted in favor.

Susan reported that she attended a Vanguard Zoom meeting about the Adirondack Foundation Fund. Adirondack Foundation reported that they are going to invest 2% of their portfolio in Adirondack region needs, such as affordable housing and job creation. This investment is small enough that it will not impact fund holders' returns, but it should have a positive impact on the community

Karen reported on communications. The final report for the Essex County Arts Council grant which we used to pay for the music provided by David Ruch is due February 1st. We received a check from the Iron Man Foundation for \$900, Karen sent out thank you letters to Roy Holzer and the town board and to Matt Simpson for their help and participation with the installation and unveiling of the "cannon prank" sign. Karen also wrote a letter to Tom Yankus, Sr to ask for historical information relating to a motel he constructed in Wilmington.

Bill Waldy donated a letter about the construction of the Fair Acres Motel and a picture of Thomas and Ruth Keegan with their sons Dennis and Ronnie. He also donated some post cards and brochures from Santa's Workshop, Guy Stephenson donated several complimentary passes to past local attractions which he got from Jim Carmelitano.

Karen talked about a meeting held on October 20th to discuss plans for the 200th Anniversary Celebration for Wilmington. The town will have pennants and they are developing a logo which will be on all souvenirs and town letterhead. They will do a historical booklet and family tree. There will be a festival as the main celebration. Merri Peck suggested we have a float playing our historic music with a small cannon on it to be included in the parade. We need to form a committee for setup of WHS programs.

Nancy Cressey reported that our total membership now stands at 140. We received 14 renewals and new memberships in the past month,

Linda Joss-Dyke will contact all the Whiskey Run committee members to get commitments for 2022.

Karen and Merri have worked on the Historical Walking Tour to include the cannon. Karen and Susan met with Marisol on the 25th. The website is now ready for a “grand opening” to be announced by email.

Merri went over some of the highlights of the webinar she attended on funding appeals. We reviewed the draft letter she prepared with Karen and incorporated some suggestions from Gil and Linda, as well as making some changes to make it more concise. Karen will send the revised letter out for approval tomorrow.

Thanks to Jess Ano for representing the Wilmington Historical Society at Wilmington’s Trunk or Treat.

Patrick McIntyre indicated he would like to help with funding for cemetery stone repair. Karen discussed this with Roy Holzer and he agreed that we could work in cooperation with the town. Guy moved to establish a fund for cemetery stone repair and work with the town. Laurie George seconded his motion and all voted in favor.

Several Webinars have been attended by Karen, Merri and Susan. It was suggested that we should keep a list of all training attended by WHS members.

Karen asked that we try to meet December 1st. Although we don’t normally meet in December we have many things to discuss at this point.

Guy moved to adjourn and Merri seconded his motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Cressey
Secretary