



PHS Board Meeting: March 17, 2009

Attending:
Alliger, Joan
Angevine, Catherine
Delchanty, Sean
Davis-Fritsch, Doris
Keukelaar, Alan
King, Clark

May, Pat
Thomson, May
Unckless, Jim
Wild, David

Not Attending:
Keeler, William
Wolf, George

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A guest, Frank Sadowski was introduced to the group. Clark asked if there were any corrections to last months meeting notes. May made the motioned to accept the minutes of February 10, 2009. David seconded. All were in favor.

CANAL PLAQUES:

Frank on behalf of the NYS Canal Corporation presented the Lackawanna Bridge Company plaque to the Society. The plaques were removed in the 70's and stored. One plaque will be reinstalled on the bridge. See attached.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Finance Committee-Clark has asked May, Jim and Bill K to be a part of a new Finance Committee per the by-laws, to make recommendations for fund raising and to identify areas to apply for grants. See attached.

Grant Writing-Bill K. has some experience and is willing to do grant writing for the Society.

New Board Members-Clark proposed that he appoint Bill Poray to the board to fill one of two vacant seats. Jim motioned to approve his appointment, Alan seconded and all were in favor. Bill will be invited to our April meeting and be on the ballot at the annual meeting to take place at the May picnic.

The nominating committee chaired by Doris will need to check with board members whose terms are ending (May, Jim and David) to determine what additional positions that need to be filled. Catherine and Sean volunteered to be on the committee.

Upcoming Activities: Clark passed out a list of dates for our calendar. See attached.

STUCTURE COMMITTEE:

Amended Survey: Catherine reported that the group has completed 45 out of 87 of the amended surveys and is very excited about archiving all the documentation on the new portal rather than creating a new set of paper documents. The 1976 Landmark Survey is now available digitally as a resource to the group.

Horse Hitch & Mounting Blocks-The group is surveying the Village for horse hitches and mounting blocks. Most that are visible are on public property. The ultimate goal of this effort is to preserve them. The first step is in making a list (the group has sighted 20 so far) and doing some research on what they are and how they were used. The group would like to produce creative projects and articles to teach and educate the community about these artifacts of an earlier era. The board requested a copy of the list and indicated full support of this effort.

MERCHANTS:

Open House: The time for this will be 1-4. March 29th. Doris developed an invitation that was sent per e-mail to the membership. May agreed to take care of refreshments and to demonstrate the apple sorter. May is going to attend the next meeting in Pat's absence.

Canal Days Poster: Reminder that poster designs need to be submitted by April 1st. There is a \$250 first prize.

Curves: Is having their 4th annual food drive in March.

Spring Fling: This years fundraiser for Village Partnership is *Cinco de Mayo* event to take place on May 1st.

Library Program: *Dealing with Change* will be at the Library April 13th at 6:30 p.m.

HOUSE TOUR COMMITTEE:

Discussion took place about the booklet cover photo selection, but it was determined that the committee should make the decision. The copy for the booklet will be done by the end of this week. If the design is completed per the timeline it will go to the printer and deliver by April 1st. 600 are needed for the mailing and selling at the 3 locations. Alan is working on getting volunteers to be tour guides.

MEMBERSHIP:

House Tour: There are currently 357 members. House Tour tickets are considered limited memberships that will need to be renewed in September. For the HT we will be selling one ticket per person. Jim will develop instructions for the house tour guides for admittance. The label will indicate if it is a family membership, therefore, more than one can be admitted.

Historigram Mailing: This month mailing took 12 days to mail and arrived to members 1 day after the program. Several members were upset that they missed the program. The dates were however in a previous issue and Jim is doing everything he can to have it mailed and arrive in a reasonable time. The only thing that would expedite it would be to pay for 1st class postage. This was determined to be too costly.

VP PROGRAM REPORT:

May Picnic: Alan has the pavilion reserved for May 12th. May indicated that the Historigram needs an article telling members what to bring and that they need to call or fill out a form indicating how many are coming and what they want to eat. Plates and utensils are to be brought by the members. We will provide the meat and drinks.

Recognition: It was decided to acknowledge outstanding volunteers with a copy of the new book and a certificate recognizing their efforts. Doris will design and print a certificate. Andy Gates will be recognized for his continued work on the Historigram and Helen Matthews for the newspaper subject index listing of 6000 documents over a 6 year period. Also Bill will be giving books to a number of government officials to thank them for their continued support. See attached on Helen's contribution.

TREASURER REPORT:

Accounts: May reported that there is \$1600.66 in the checking account and \$5,188.76 in the Money Market. There is \$9,271.76 in the CD, the Community Fund balance was \$58,666.70 and the Grant Account has \$1,620.66.

Cash Flow: We have a cash flow problem currently with budget money being spent on marketing materials, the House Tour and the need to pay for the *Then and Now* books. All projects are in the budget.

Senior Bash: May asked if we wanted to support the Senior Bash as we had done in previous years with a \$25 donation and all we agreed to continue doing this.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Publicity: Article appeared in 3 or 4 publications for the February program. Joan is working on articles for the book release and the House Tour.

Marketing & Website: The Museum flyer, letterhead and envelopes are all printed. Doris will attend the merchants meeting next week to distribute the Museum flyer.

The Join us/Membership brochure worked on with Jim was circulated to the board for review via e-mail. Joan asked for more time to make corrections before printing in quantity. May motioned to have printed a small quantity for the March 26 open house. Alan seconded and all were in favor.

Doris shared a web design that uses the mural as the dominant graphic on a brown background. The mural image will scroll across the home page. The board was generally ok with this direction.

MUSEUM REPORT:

Budget-Bill K. submitted a budget request to Village Manager, Ken Moore that included putting new lighting in the gift shop area of the Museum.

OLD BUSINESS:

Museum Contract: George reported that the PHS lease agreement of 1982 requires the Society to pay for heat, light, plumbing, electrical, roofing, interior and exterior maintenance, and insurance on the building contents. See attached for full report.

Float Committee: The group has met several times to get organized. They have found a truck but need to find a flatbed. The theme will be *Old Time Picnic in the Park*.

NEW BUSINESS: none at this time.

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Museum

ADJOURNMENT: Joan motioned that the meeting be adjourn, Jim seconded. All were in favor. Time was 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Doris Davis-Fritsch