



PERINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

18 PERRIN STREET
FAIRPORT, NEW YORK 14450

Board Meeting Minutes: January 23, 2007

ATTENDING

Alliger, Joan
Barry, William
Jongen, John
Keeler, William
King, Clark
Lewis, T.C.
McDonough, Bernadette
McDonough, Peter
Ortenberg, Reuben
Thomson, Mary
Unckless, Jim
Wild, David
Wilson, Art

NOT ATTENDING

Pat May

BOARD MEETINGS The Board approved without change the minutes of its meeting on November 21, 2006. The next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday **February 27, 2007**, 7:00 PM.

LEADERSHIP

Peter McDonough, President, introduced his guest **Art Wilson** as a longtime contributor to the beautification and maintenance of the Museum. He has asked Art to consider joining the Board of Directors. Peter clarified his request of Board members for their personal resumes. He merely wants to learn what each member can do, or is prepared to do, for the PHS Board.

When Fairport's historic preservation ordinance becomes law Peter expects that the Fairport Historic Preservation Board will need the research support of the still to be organized **PHS Historic Preservation Committee**. In anticipation of this he wants to establish a dedicated historic preservation resource library. Ken Moore has donated old maps of Fairport that could be cataloged in the proposed library along with the 1976 Landmark Society survey results of Fairport and the more recent Perinton landmarks survey results.

FAIRPORT MERCHANTS

In her absence John Jongen gave Pat May's report: Some of the realtor FPMA members are interested in using Museum resources to research their house listings' legacy. The Board discussed this opportunity and agreed that while this information is available to anyone, realtors in particular could use the data to entice prospective buyers of historic homes. It was suggested that a realtor might offer prospective home buyers their first annual family membership in the Perinton Historical Society. This would be an appropriate welcoming gift to someone purchasing an historic home.

Merchants have criticized the apparent lack of care and the unsightly appearance of the Museum's entry garden landscape. The observation was made by a Fairport merchant who is the president of the Green Briar Garden Club that maintains the other gardens around the Museum.

LEGAL PLANNING

Peter McDonough and Reuben Ortenberg have been consulting each other to develop a workable plan to properly insure the Museum collection and the Board of Directors. They have agreed to do additional research and interview other Monroe County and NY State historical societies and the Upstate History Alliance to learn how they protect themselves. They expect this process to take about three months.

One possible option is to self-insure the Museum content, or to insure just the few high-value items. They have learned that the Victor Historical Society pays insurance premiums of some \$13,000 annually, which uses up virtually their entire membership dues proceeds.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

Bernadette McDonough, Programs Chairperson, reported that the January presentation of 'Yankee Peddler' was a resounding success. Don Naetzker's multimedia production from 1976, using the legacy Kodak slide carousel technology, is a fascinating educational entertainment on many levels.

She then reported that the February 20th event would be a potluck supper and membership auction at the Perinton Community Center. The March 13th event will be a presentation at the Museum by photographer Andy Olenick about his architectural photo-journey through the State of New York. The House Tour is scheduled on April 29th and the annual membership picnic will be held on May 15th at Perinton Park.

COLLECTIONS

Bill Keeler, Museum Curator, purchase two more items on eBay for the collection. The NY State grant, sponsored by NY Assemblyman David Koon, has not yet been received. Clark King will follow up to learn why the grant proceeds have been delayed.

The grant from Leonard Sayles, of Naples FL, has been reduced from the original promised \$30,000 to the amount of \$10,000. For that we agreed to complete a bronze plaque, remembering his parent's legacy in Fairport. Cost of the plaque of \$160 was approved by the Board. Sayles also asked for some appropriate press coverage and a dedication event. Joan Alliger will follow up on developing the press release and fanfare.

The Board voted unanimously to increase Bill Keeler's 'contractor's fee' from \$100 to \$200 monthly. Bill stated that he would continue to open the Museum every other Monday to researchers. Bill has been re-organizing the Museum exhibits and expect to organize a 'grand opening' event some week-end soon.

FINANCE

May Thompson, Treasurer, suggested that we transfer \$10,000 excess from current operating accounts to the Rochester Community Foundation. The Board agreed to transfer the funds.

HOUSE TOUR

TC Lewis reports that the Lovejoy Foundation has donated \$1500 for this year's house tour event. Bill Barry estimates that with press release costs the budget for the event is still at \$2600, i.e. what he originally estimated it would cost.

John Jongen announced that the date for the tour will be Sunday, April 29th. We is planning a 'meet the homeowners' event at the Fairport Village Coffee on Sunday, February 4th. At that time we expect to have the minimum number of homeowners' commitments. We are still negotiating a venue for the opening event since Potter Place is not available on Sundays. The closing gathering will be at the DeLand Village Green Inn.

The Board agreed with the admission price point of \$10 per person and that only members will be admitted. Memberships can again be purchased up to the start of the house tour. Membership applications including the House Tour Catalog (the ticket) will again be available at prominent locations including Fairport Village Hall, Perinton Town Hall, and at some storefront merchants in Fairport.

Peter and Bernadette, through Jean Keplinger our Perinton historian, discovered a unique oral history transcript of two former West Street sisters. With some further editing and added photographs John Jongen expects to transform this ten-page document into a keep-sake memento to be presented to each of the residents of West Street on the occasion of the 2007 house tour.

WEB SITE

John Jongen reported that our website has filled its free 20 MB storage space. For an annual fee of \$110 our storage capacity will be increased to 50 MB. Our visitor traffic speed (bandwidth) would increase from 1 GB to 10 GB, and the obnoxious banners will disappear from our web pages. The Board approved the expenditure.

Respectfully submitted by John Jongen, February 5, 2007.