

Greensboro Historical Society
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Attendees: Jenny Stoner, Martha Niemi, BJ Gray, Kyle Gray, Gail Sangree, Nancy Hill, Clive Gray, Lisa Armstrong, Paula Harmon, Erika Karp, Wendy Parrish

Meeting opened at the library meeting room at approximately 12:40.

President's Report: Nancy began by thanking many people for their recent and on-going assistance with the newsletter, the mailing list, cleaning the Hill exhibit, the production of the Hazen Road Dispatch and so much more. Thank you all!

She also passed around a newsletter from the Vt. Historical Society promoting their current exhibit about auto racing in Vermont, encouraging all to visit the VHS in Barre.

She reminded all about the upcoming lecture by Jill Baker and Pat Haslam about their archeological dig project at Blockhouse Hill, to be held on June 27th at the Highland Center for the Arts at 1:30pm. All are invited to attend.

Secretary's Report: Barbara was not present with last month's meeting minutes for approval. Expect to see them for review at the next meeting in September.

Treasurer's Report: Clive reported that we currently have a heavy deficit due to the cost of the new furnace and associated costs. This should be offset in the near future with the incoming donations (and membership renewals) as well as reimbursements from the town's insurance and possible grants.

He also reported that the GHS has applied for a grant through the Greensboro Association to support Kyle Gray's digitization project. The GHS is also working on writing a grant proposal for the Northeast Kingdom Initiative of the Vermont Community Foundation by the September application deadline.

History Moment: Martha Niemi read a portion of a letter from Therese Cardinal Mallon ("TC") regarding the story about knowing the late Anne Harbison and how Anne and husband Bob found their way to Greensboro.

She then told us about her property on Center Road, the house being built in 1832 and lived in by the Deslauriers family. Only a few of the 13 children of are still alive or live nearby. The father claimed to be part "Indian" and knew about "Indian" tricks and ways with sticks, plants, and the like. She passed around a collection of photos. She and Bill bought the house from Frank and Katherine Trost, who bought from the Deslauriers.

Jenny Stoner, with input from her sisters, will present the History Moment (the story of how their family came to Greensboro) in September.

Building Report: Nancy reported that the systems are working well in the basement archive room. A new Rinnai heater was ordered to supplement the heating system for the winter-time staff. The fire alarm was beeping frequently but was fixed by Cold Hollow and Countryside. Action: The alarm phone call chain needs review and revisions.

Other Business

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Banner: BJ showed the new fabric banner that fits the support frame provided by the China Hands exhibit committee. This was acquired from Sign Design for \$235.

Window display: She would like to “dress” the museum front window with store products from the 1980s to go along with the 1980s photo exhibit, asking those present for household / cupboard items that look like they came from that time period. Also in this display will be Janet Long’s old cash register.

Opening Reception: Nancy will send out personal invitations to specific people to attend the exhibit opening reception on Sunday, July 1st, between 3:00 and 5:00. She will also email board members regarding treats for the opening reception. Martha will again make the punch.

In anticipation of people requesting copies of photos on display, a photo-sharing policy needs to be drafted. There was some discussion about this but for now, it was determined that people can snap photos of the photos on display for no fee.

HRD: Gail reported that we are currently out of stock of the 40 years of HRD book. She inquired about getting a small batch printed: 20 would cost \$35.50 each. The original printing cost \$20/book which we sold for \$25.

FaceBook: Kyle again asked people to help him keep the content fresh by asking us to send him fun and interesting ideas and photos.

He also reported that with the slower internet connection in the past, the software to back up the GHS files was uninstalled. Now that we have better speed, he will re-install the back-up software.

The committee for the China Hands exhibit also donated an ipad, currently loaded with videos from the exhibit. It was suggested that we continue the tradition of saving exhibit videos/photos for public viewing.

Museum Operations:

There was agreement that available HRDs from the 1980s be made available for purchase during this 1980s era exhibit. Kyle has copied all of the HRDs from the beginning, but they are not yet available on the website. There was discussion about how to best promote their sale and/or viewing when they are placed on the website. Pat Haslam has indexed the HRDs – Wendy will contact her regarding her index files.

Martha reported that she has docents lined up for complete coverage of open hours. She asked each to swap shifts with another person should they have a conflict. It is also expected/understood that Willie is willing to cover as needed.

The nominating committee consists of Martha Niemi and Erika Karp. They will have the next slate ready in time for the Annual Meeting on August 6.

Funky Fourth Parade: Kyle and another TBD person will again pull the GHS buggy, adorned by red, white and blue bunting loaned by the Parrish’s.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00. **The next meeting will be in September. Have a great summer!**

Wendy Parrish, Secretary Pro-Tem

