

Waterbury Historical Society Board Meeting

August 16, 2023, in the History Center at 4:30 p.m.

Present: President Cheryl Casey, Joe Camaratta, Jan Gendreau, Anne Imhoff, Skip Flanders, Jill Chase, Bill Woodruff, Mike Mahoney, Laura Parette, and Grace Sweet

Copies to: Karen Petrovic, Sandy Hough, Margo Metayer, Josette White, Betty Jones, and Betsy Shapiro

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Minutes of June 21	The secretary did not have the minutes with her.	<i>Tabled until Sept.</i>
Nominations – Jan Gendreau, Margo Sayah, and Betsy Shapiro	Two directors have agreed to another term. Vice President , outreach, and program positions need to be filled. Selling points: Community engagement and preservation. Bryan Farnsworth is interested in WHS. The Annual Meeting can be on ZOOM including the opportunity to vote for the slate of officers.	<i>Cheryl will put a notice of positions to be filled on social media</i>
Outreach	Skip, Grace, and Margo are regrouping. Jane Willard was our leader, organizer and visionary and is missed.	
Program – Skip Flanders	Paul Heller , Montpelier historian, could come in the spring to speak about Waterbury connections in the Green Mont cemetery in Montpelier. Thea Lewis , who has done extensive research on the Lakeview cemetery in Burlington, is scheduled to present a program on Sat., Nov. 18 . She will speak about former Waterbury folks who served in the Civil War and who are buried at Lakeview: William Wells, William Wirt Henry, and Hollister Jackson. The Annual Meeting will precede the Nov. 18th program. January: TBD April: CCC camp – 100 th anniversary of Vermont State Parks and Recreation. Nate McKeen is the Director of Vermont Forest Parks and Recreation.	<i>Skip, Anne and Cheryl will prepare a flyer for the Nov. 18th program.</i> <i>Anne will find out if there is to be an event re: the 100th anniversary.</i>
Finances – Joe Camaratta	See attached report including the budget reconciliation. 50% of the Annual Appeal comes in the fourth quarter. About 5% of Waterbury households contribute to WHS. There are 2340 names on the grand list. The board needs to think about generating income to pay for the salary for the Collections Manager. An appeal letter will be written to be mailed and also will be posted on FPF. Donations can be received electronically. Do we cover our costs of the newsletter? Electronic mailing of the newsletter should be encouraged. Joe has changed some of the reporting categories . Jan made a motion to accept the change in categories and Anne 2 nd . Approved The proposed budget for 2024 and the proposed slate of officers need to be warned 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting.	<i>Cheryl will present a draft letter for the Annual Appeal at the September meeting.</i> <i>Slate and budget will be published in next newsletter</i>

Collections Manager – Mike Mahoney	See attached report. Almost everything in the closet has been sorted. Many items are still to be cataloged including the collections of Dr. Janes, Rex Morse, Don Fields, and Bill Mason. Mike offered to teach board members how to catalog. Bill Woodruff will get a key to the History Center to Cheryl.	<i>Mike is in the office Mon. and Tues. 8-11:30, Wed. 12-4:30 Fri. 8-4</i>
Grant Opportunities Mike and Joe	Vermont Humanities offers Education grants – application due Oct. 15. Perhaps \$500 could offset a speaker cost. Federal Grants – National Endowment for Humanities might fund collections care – need the services of a conservator to give direction on improving skills in caring for items. Lawson’s Finest Liquids – Sunshine Fund grant possibility Grants will not support salaries.	<i>Cheryl will contact Lawson’s</i>
A/D – Jill Chase Joe	Question re: framed photos of Pilgrim Park, one black and white, one in color and a black and white photo of the area prior to Pilgrim Park – all from Steve van Esen. Duplicates not necessary. Waterbury Record Digitization Project – CDs from 2008 -2016 were given to former president, Barb Farr. The Record is available online, so the motion was made to abandon the digitization endeavor by Joe and seconded by Jill. Approved.	<i>Keep the photos in frames unless they are duplicates.</i> <i>Jan will return the CDs to the Stowe Reporter.</i>
Newsletter – Laura Parette	Brand Guidelines and specific fonts for publicity were presented. Board members will be highlighted in upcoming newsletters – Q&A. The deadline for info for the publication was August 15 th , however, the publication will be delayed so that it can include the nominations report and the proposed budget.	<i>Logos are on Google Drive</i>
Social Media – Cheryl Casey	See attached papers for digital engagement for the previous month and from Jan. 1 - Aug. 14, 2023. 1,316 new visitors, 42 returning and 31 have given money.	
Strategic Planning - Cheryl	Five-year plan – need a four-hour block of time. Cheryl will propose a number of dates.	<i>Cheryl</i>
Program – Skip: The Morse Code Secretary’s note -	Brendan Buckley, author of <u>The Morse Code</u> , gave an engaging talk about David Morse, a long-time sports reporter, who grew up in Waterbury. <i>Prior to the talk Skip presented cards and gifts to retiring members Jane and Paul Willard. Jane was a member of the Outreach Committee and compiler of the most recent history book, <u>A New Century in Waterbury, Stories of Resilience, Growth and Community</u>. Paul was the treasurer and kept the membership list plus was the webmaster. We thank them for their many years of service to WHS and wish them well.</i>	

Vermont Preservation Collaboration Opportunity	Vermont Huts by Dani Kehlmann Goodell House rebuild - perhaps WHS could provide material for interpreting the site. Highwater marks for the July 10, 0111 flood? Jeff Larkin owns the Beer Cellar on Elm Street (the former Ayers store). Dave Myers put a mark up after Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.	<i>Cheryl</i> ?
Rotary artifacts	What is the status?	<i>Cheryl</i>
Hanging System – Bill Woodruff	The items have been ordered. Whitney will install the rails. Anne Imhoff will contact George Woodard to invite him to display his family photos in the Steele room.	
Secretary's notes	The strategic planning potluck meeting scheduled for July 10 at Laura Parette's home was canceled due to the flooding in downtown Waterbury from the recent relentless rains. The proposed Bike Camp events did not happen , as Wyatt O'Brien resigned his position as Waterbury's recreation director. The Outreach Committee's power point presentation of Parades in Waterbury by Skip Flanders at the Senior Center with patriotic songs led by Sue Johannsen was very well received. Thanks to Jane Willard for organizing the event.	
Next meeting	Wednesday, September 20 at 4:30 in the Steele Room	
Meeting Adjourned	at 6:45	
Secretary's Minutes	Notes respectfully submitted by Grace Sweet	

Jane and Paul Willard receiving gifts and cards from members of WHS presented by Skip Flanders in appreciation for their long time dedication to the Waterbury Historical Society.

Photo courtesy of Cheryl Casey



