

**Williamson–Pultneyville Historical Society
Meeting Minutes
Monday April 22, 2019 7pm-8:58pm
W-PHS House**

Call to Order The meeting was call to order at 7 pm by Cheryl Kline, Vice President

Roll Call of Officers and Standing Committee Chairs – Recording Secretary

Present: Cheryl Kline-Vice President, Debbie Parts-Treasurer, Sue Jane Evans-Exhibits Chair (7pm-8:33pm), Jim McCaig, Kathy McCaig-Membership Co-Chairs, Dottie Howland- Program Chair, Jackie Walker- Recording Secretary, David Frohlich-Property (7pm-8:10pm), Chair Lenore Youngman- Collections Management Chair, Kathy Fedick-Cemetery Chair

Absent: Nan Hance- President, Perry Howland-Ex Officio Trustee, Linda Perkins-Corresponding Secretary, Sandy Zeman-Communications Chair and Grants,

Guest: Susan DeNagel- Chair, 4th Grade Walking Tour

Acceptance of Minutes from March 4, 2019 Board Meeting

The minutes of the March 4, 2019, having been previously distributed, were accepted unanimously on a motion by Dave and second by Lenore.

Correspondence (see Officer reports-corresponding secretary)

4th Grade Walking Tour Report – Susan DeNagel, Chair

Susan presented an overview of the 4th grade walking tour planned for Tuesday, June 11, 2019 (rain date is June 13, 2019.) The tour will be an all-day event with approximately 17 stops in Pultneyville on the tour. Four 4th grade classes with 4 teachers and some parents will attend. There will be 5 minutes talks at each location.

Susan displayed large photographs of some locations which will be used on the tour. There will be approximately 90 students split into 4 groups, each group starting the tour at a different place on the tour.

There will be games and Susan is encouraging period dress. May 2 there will be a “gentle” walk through.

Next Steps: Nan to get permission to use Grille parking lot. Debbie to contact resource to do a “knot board”. (Completed during meeting) Dottie to contact Jane to see if she can do videotaping. Nan -handout to be sent home with students.

Susan notified us that Les Buell is having a walking tour of Williamson on May 14th.

Reports of Officers

President –Nan Hance. This report was submitted by email by Nan and reviewed by Cheryl at the meeting.

Phone Calls/Emails/Personal Contacts

Jean Davis re: 4th Grade Walking Tour

Phil Dean re: Williamson postcards and memorabilia

Bill Poray re: Poray Family Digital Collection which is now in archives
Request from WCS Elementary School teachers for info. on Post Offices
forwarded on to

Archives

W-PHS Programs

Attended March and April Programs and kudos to Dottie for planning such popular programs!

Gates Hall Use Agreement

In progress with Dave Frohlich and John L’Hommidieu
Planning to review at May Board Meeting

Who Meeting Highlights

Attended April 17th meeting in Marion featuring Historic Site Demonstration
2023 Wayne County Bicentennial Celebration is in progress under the leadership
of Gene Bavis

and Larry Ann Evans as appointed by the Wayne County Board of Supervisors

Attended The 2019 Many Conference (Museum Association Of New York)

Through a Grant made possible by the Pomeroy Foundation, Cheryl Kline and I were able to attend this annual conference in Cooperstown entitled “Access and Identity” which was applicable to both the smallest and largest historical societies and museums.

Great opportunity for sharing and learning new information.

Had Funders appointment with Kristin Herron, Arts Program Director, Architecture and Design of the NYS Council of the Arts re: possible avenues for funding Gates Hall Project

Outcomes – W-PHS needs to review and consider:

- Membership dues structure as it is our primary source of funding
- Need to review Member Benefits
- Communication with other local organizations – i.e.: Notes of Congratulations, special anniversaries and celebrations, etc. create goodwill
- Add Children’s Component and an adult “What Is It” display to exhibits to foster interactivity
- Need to consider naming our Parlor Room (front room) with a blanket name to cover multiple exhibits on varying topics
- Remember at all times “Our Members are Our Future”; it’s all about “**THEM**”
- Recognize all members . . . not just business members; should add member listing to website and in newsletter at least once per yr.
- Came away with many resources that we can call on
- We need to think “digitally” for everything we do
- Need to consider establishing an Advisory Council to the Board

Facebook

Have topped 800 followers largely due in part to our ongoing historical posts

Senator Helming Appointment

Have confirmed appointment in May to pursue Grant opportunities and Member Initiative

Funds that might be dedicated to Gates Hall Project

Thank You! Sue Jane Evans and Perry Howland for organizing and presenting “Staying Well in Williamson” at the 2019 Health, Wellness and Learning Fair at WCS, and Jamie Sonnevile at

IitClix for setting up officer email accounts for Vice Pres. and Treasurer

Homecoming Update

- Received approval for Certified Farmer’s Market Designation which will allow vendors to do tastings in a constricted area
- Vendor and Dealer Applications coming in
- Added Historic Element to Quit Show tying in the Underground Railroad’s relationships to Quilts
- Will have WHO Demonstration at W-PHS house of the Historic Sites data base on July 20th

- Will have possible “Rug Hookers of the Finger Lakes” demonstration on July 20th . . . Location to be determined
- The Williamson Hardware will have a tent in which they feature their grills like they did at the June meeting last year on Main Street; Jim Hartsen (the hardware) provides the food for sampling for his Grill reps)

Next Homecoming Meeting: Tuesday, May 7th at Pultneyville Fire Hall

Vice-President - Cheryl Kline (see report above) Working on research grants with Sandy.

Treasurer- Debbie Parts -Reviewed balances in accounts. Reviewed bills paid. Contacted IRS about correcting name to Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society. (has not received a response from them). Has received information re: applying for gift card from Wegmans. Treasurer report accepted unanimously on a motion by Lenore and second by Sue-Jane. (including applying for gift card). Debbie questioned who was on the audit committee. **Next Step: Debbie discuss audit committee appointed members with Nan.**

Corresponding Secretary -report received by email and read by Jackie Walker

MARCH Program Eloise Wilkin (illustrator)-Thank you notes were sent to: Tom & Lorraine Dawes (for hosting at their home), Barbara Crawford (for bringing the doll, The Howlands (for speaker & organizers), The D'Amandas (speaker) Jane Milem (for videotaping), Kelly Klaritch (for publicity for the program), Kim Iraci (Library presenter) In April, get well card to Jackie Walker. sympathy card to Larry Kilbury (loss of brother), Thinking of You to Laraine Frohlich (hip surgery).

Ex Officio Trustee - Perry Howland, Town Historian, absent report submitted by email. The following is the report submitted:

- Prepared monthly written report of activities for Williamson Town Supervisor Tony Verno
- Presented talk on anti-slavery, abolition and underground railroad activities in Williamson and Pultneyville, to the Williamson Senior Citizens on April 3. Many thanks to Sue-Jane Evans for helping research and provide materials based on earlier research done by a WPHS committee.
- Continue utilizing the digitized copies of the *Williamson Sun* on the Williamson Free Library's website,
- now typing up, along with Gail McCarthy, selected columns of "Random Thoughts" articles from the *Williamson Sun* written by former Pultneyville resident Alice Gallup from 1979-1995, prior to assembling and laying out pieces to compile into a book.
- Attended the Wayne Historians Organization (WHO) bi-monthly meeting at the Marion Public Library on April 17.

- Along with other village and town historians, with the assistance of Sue-Jane Evans, am contributing Williamson historic sites to a Wayne County Historic Sites database project. So far there are 66 sites from Williamson.
- Attended March 13 and April 3 WPHS programs and a program on the Underground Railroad held by Historic Palmyra on April 18 and a Virtual Walking Tour of Walworth presented by the Walworth Historical Society on April 8.
- On-going clipping of obituaries and other items from newspapers/publications dealing with Williamson.

Reports of Standing Committee Chairs

Nominating - Cheryl Kline- No report

Membership - Jim and Kathy McCaig- Total members 154. 115 individual, 39 business. 2 new members sign up in April. Since the beginning of 2019, we have 23 new members (14 individual, and 9 businesses).

Finance - Debbie Parts see Treasurer's report.

Collections Management-Lenore reported:

- Purchase and installation of two window shades in Archives area to reduce impact of natural light on vulnerable materials, including photos and paintings.
- Completed reorganization of photographic collection
- Updated inventory lists with key words and map
- Put together two albums of photos of Auchampaugh house restoration – thanks Anne Hotchkiss
- Provided research support for Williamson kindergarten teacher and introduced 4th grade Walking Tour leaders to Archives/Collections Area. All showed much interest
- Received histories for several Williamson families and information on schools from new donor. All provided on USB and in written form with photos
- Melodeon moved from donor's home to front parlor of WPHS house. It has a leaky bellows but is in otherwise good condition. Built around 1856 and comes with a stool which has seat hand-embroidered by a family member in 1943
- Continuing to update locations for object and document collections
- Preparing request for grant for restoration of Ken Orbaker painting with Sandy Zeman's assistance

Communications and Grants-no report

Exhibits Sue Jane- The house will be open June 14-Oct 14. There was discussion around the Almaza display in the hall and it was suggested the display might be relocated to the yacht club. **Next Step: Sue-Jane/Kathy check with Keith Herman to see if this is acceptable and relocate it to the yacht club. Archives will then to arrange loan with Yacht Club.**

Programs – Dottie- East Williamson program on history of the Fire Department was very successful and exceeded Dottie's expectations. It was noted how important it is to involve East Williamson and Williamson in programs. May 1st is the next program re: Albright family (based on a diary) presented by Liz Albright. Dottie requests if anyone has diaries to bring them to the meeting.

Property – Dave reported: Preliminary estimate from Randy Cornelius for Gates Hall roof repair is \$188,000. Estimated repair time is about 5 months. Motion made by Debbie, second by Lenore to authorize \$1840 to have Passero do drawings (stamped) for repair. Motion passed unanimously. **Next Step: Dave to notify Passero to do drawings, and once received, review them with Randy to finalize the bid and possibly see if he can find a second bidder.** The mezzanine is not affected by the roof repair. Note: Jackie asked what the total cost for Gates Hall projects would be: Dave responded: mezzanine about 40K, handicapped access about 87K, roof estimated at 188K.

Reports- Other Committees

Cemetery Moonlight Tour Update – Kathy Fedick- In process of identifying souls, planning is in good shape. Possible souls: Chester, Pearl Peters. Jay Peters has requested no parking on the lawn at the cemetery. **Next Step: Kathy/Nan work out parking details.** Kathy announced the 75th anniversary of the Yacht Club is this year and will be celebrated Aug. 10th 1-10pm with an open house and many activities including food, boats, etc.

Unfinished Business

Officer (Treasure and Vice President) E-mail Addresses completed
 Historic District/National Registry (moved to May agenda)
 June Opening Reception June 13th 5-7pm
 Gates Hall Use Agreement in Progress

New Business

Given upcoming fundraising efforts should W-PHS consider:

- Commemorative Gates Hall Plate (high level donor incentive and gift shop item) positive response. Refer to fund raising committee
- Gates Hall Program as we prepare for major fund raiser
- Feature Gates Hall in upcoming newsletters as feature article
- Add July 22nd Board meeting to schedule
- ROC City Ringers Fundraising Concert confirmed for September 29th at Gates Hall

Other

Day of Caring – May 9, 2019. See Sue-Jane if you have a project for this day.

Summary Next Steps Jackie summarized next steps.

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, May 20, 7pm W-PHS House

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm on a motion by Lenore second by Debbie with all in agreement.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Walker, Recording Secretary
4/23/2019
Reviewed by C. Kline