

PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order by board president, Dick Warner at 1:00 p.m. in the lower level of the museum.

Board Members Present: Dick Warner, Michael Castor, Joan Gehringer, Ed Bigelow, Jim Lambrix, Mark Shotwell, Sally Ouweneel, Debbie Deward, Bob Childers and Bill O'Donnell

Board Member Absent: Roger MacLeod

Approval of agenda: Ed Bigelow stated that the date given for the board meeting minutes approval (item **V**) was incorrect. It should read November 2, 2016.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sally Ouweneel and seconded by Mike Castor. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 2, 2016 was made by Mike Castor and seconded by Ed Bigelow. The minutes were unanimously approved.

ON GOING ACTIVITIES STATUS REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: The following financial reports were emailed by Mike Castor to all board members: November – December 2016 Financial Highlights, January through December 2016 Highlights, 2016 Final Budget Overview and the 2017 Proposed Operating Budget

Bill O'Donnell asked for an explanation of several items on both the 2016 financial highlights and the 2017 proposed budget. The explanations were given by the individuals in charge of those budget items.

Debbie Deward questioned why there was no amount given under the Special Events section for the float for the Sesquicentennial parade. She was told that it is part of the Marketing budget. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report by Bill O'Donnell and seconded by Ed Bigelow. The report was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to approve the 2017 Budget by Sally Ouweneel and seconded by Mike Castor. The 2017 Budget was unanimously passed.

Museum Activities: Dick Warner recently met with Eric from Consumers Energy on the display that is planned for the museum in 2017. Dick doesn't think that will fill up enough space in the museum. He is going to bring back the "Lost and Found Ships" display. Dick is also going to draw up a new plan for placement of items in the museum. The biggest change will be moving the canoe and changing the stage area. The salt and pepper display is going to be taken back down to the basement.

Special Events: Debbie Deward has been in contact with Lee Murdock, singer and story teller of the Great Lakes to possibly be our entertainment at the spring dinner. He has agreed to do it for \$400 and one night lodging. His normal fee is between \$600-700. It was suggested that Karen Way would let them (Lee and wife, Joan) stay for free at her B & B. Debbie was going to check it out.

Debbie is also working on using a new caterer. She has spoken to Bryan Matthew from "Smokin on the Lakeshore". She will have more information at the March meeting.

Debbie is working on a flyer for the store windows for the Spring Dinner. She is also working on the contact lists for radio and newspaper. She will pass it on to Jim Lambrix when complete.

It was decided to send out an email before the garage sale in June asking for donated items. No calls have been received, as yet.

We are still planning on the Pancake Breakfast. Debbie said she would need a \$200 deposit to send to Chris Cakes, who will be doing the breakfast.

Debbie has been in contact with Dr. Chuck Cleland as a possible speaker for the Summer Dinner.

The okay was given by the board for Debbie to go ahead and order the plastic bags with our museum logo on them for giveaways for the parade. She will order 5000 of them for a total cost of \$1,305. She was also given the okay to order fans with PHS info on them for a total cost of \$335 for 500 fans. We will be giving them out at the museum.

Membership report: Sally will give a full updated report on who has not paid, etc. at our next board meeting in March.

Website management: Jim Lambrix reported that we are on the "Pure Michigan" site, now. He noticed that the Chamber of Commerce site needed updating as far as the board members now in office.

We will be advertising in the "PTW" as well as in "Michigan History" magazine.

Mike Castor suggested that "Crossings", which you can find aboard the Badger, would be a good one to advertise in. He noticed that many people look through that while on board, looking for things to do in the area.

Jim is also checking on pricing of additional signs around the area.

Newsletters and Walking Tour Booklet: Bill O'Donnell stated that new tour books will be sold for a recommended price of \$10. We have 250 copies coming. They were lost by UPS, but have been located and are on route to us.

Mark Shotwell offered to email the newsletters from now on.

INITIATIVES

Buildings and Grounds: Ed Bigelow wanted to schedule a spring cleanup day. It was decided to be on April 29th. He plans to ask if there are any high school kids trying to get in their community service hours that would be willing to help us.

Red Barn: The money for the renovation of the red barn was given to the Community Foundation of Oceana County. They will set up what they are calling, "Red Barn preservation fund". A committee will be formed with a CFOC representative, a DNR representative and as many interested private citizens as they agree on. The committee will approve contracts for renovation and disperse funds as well as be responsible for advertising to the public where donations can be made towards saving the barn.

Mike Castor made the following motion: "I move that the Pentwater Historical Society transfer, without any encumbrances, the Red Barn maintenance funds in the amount of \$7,989.33, being held in the Society's Savings Account #1460047, to the Community Foundation of Oceana County for the expressed purpose of maintaining said Red Barn located on Monroe Road, Pentwater, Michigan. Further, effective this 4th day of January, 2017, the Pentwater Historical Society absolves itself of any further obligations with regard to said Red Barn". The motion was seconded by Mark Shotwell and unanimously approved.

2017 Sesquicentennial and Founders Day: Debbie Deward stated that the Sesquicentennial kick-off dinner tickets will be \$18.67. Payment for tickets will be checks only and the tickets will be available at the Village Office.

Debbie is going to a meeting tomorrow to discuss plans for the sesquicentennial. Some on the committee want to add 20 more pages to update the Centennial book and possibly get all new sponsors for each page. The meeting tomorrow will determine more and Debbie will update us at our March meeting.

Debbie stated that 6 more big flower planters were needed to put in front of Pentwater businesses. Debbie still has the original 6.

The cost would be \$130. Also, 12 new signs for each planter will cost approximately \$275. The money needed for the flower planters and signs will be requested from the DDA. We can hopefully get the dirt, rocks and flowers from the Garden Club. We would need \$125 for those items.

The DDA wanted to know why the PHS isn't contributing any cash towards Founders Day. Our answer to that was that we are a non-profit organization that operates from donations where the DDA operates on tax money collected. It was also stated that we are doing all of the work on this project.

Mini Split Project Update: Mike Castor said that the Community Foundation of Oceana County gave us \$3,000 towards the mini split project. We are coming up with matching funds for it, which we have. Mike said he would do the preliminary electrical work on it. He will be talking to some experts in the field of heating and cooling to get their input on the project and then the decision will be made as to which contractor will complete the job.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sally Ouweneel and seconded by Mark Shotwell. It was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Gehringer - Secretary

