

**PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2018**

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, Norm Shotwell, Joan Gehringer, Mike Castor, Ed Bigelow, Mark Shotwell, Sally Ouweneel, Debbie Deward, Amy VanderZwart and Bob Childers

Board Member Absent: Jim Lambrix

**Approval of Agenda:** Norm Shotwell made a motion to move #7 on the agenda regarding the upcoming newsletter to the #1 position. It was seconded by Mark Shotwell and unanimously approved.

A motion was then made by Ed Bigelow to accept the revised agenda and was seconded by Mike Castor and unanimously approved.

**PHS Newsletter:** Amy VanderZwart reminded all board members that articles for the upcoming newsletter are due by June 1st. She also reminded the board that she is still waiting for bios from some members. She requested that the bio include a picture.

Our Vision and Mission statements will be included in the newsletter. Also, a request to have individual newsletters emailed to members rather than sent by regular mail will be in the newsletter on a regular basis.

Amy is still looking for ideas on future articles. She wondered who she could contact for information on past firefighters in Pentwater as well as some of the old equipment that was used. Debbie Deward suggested interviewing Terry Cluchey, who was the fire chief in Pentwater for many years. Amy also wanted information on past tragedies in Pentwater for the fall issue. Another idea for an article was regarding the recent seiche that happened on Lake Michigan in April and the flooding, etc. that took place because of it.

Norm Shotwell suggested sending a newsletter to the Pentwater Lake Association so that they could possibly add our upcoming events to their newsletter.

Dick Warner suggested that we get business sponsors and then give them regular recognition in every newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike Castor emailed a copy of the 2018 final budget and also the financial highlights for April to board members. Several of the board members said that they did not get the 2018 budget email.

Mike had an updated donor list that is current as of May 1, 2018 that was passed around.

Norm Shotwell stated that Tave Resser wants the donation of \$1,000 back that was initially to be used for a memorial garden in honor of his father, Ted. He would discuss a donation when we decide what we are going to do as far as any kind of landscaping in the yard that is north of the museum.

Mike reported that the Immersion Program is set up for June 6th or possibly June 7th with the area 3rd graders. Elaine Curtis is in charge of it and she will let us know when it will be and what she needs from us on that day. It will be an all-day program so docents will be needed.

**Membership Report:** Sally Ouweneel reported that we have 312 active members and 43 delinquent members at this time. It was decided that the board will discuss new options for membership and possibly do away with life memberships at the June meeting.

**Museum Activities:** Dick Warner reported that he is expecting to get an email today on information regarding the "Welcome to Idlewild" display that is planned for this summer. We will have it for three months at \$200 per month. He will pick it up. Amy said that she would write an article for the newsletter about Idlewild and let everyone know that the display will be at the museum this summer.

Dick is still working on a new floor plan for the museum.

The mannequins have been ordered that Dick and Sylvia Warner have donated for the museum. Dick also presented a check for \$1000 to buy new tables.

**Special Events:** Debbie Deward sent an email to all board members with updated information on all upcoming events for this spring and summer.

The set up for the spring dinner will be on Tuesday, May 22nd at 9:00 a.m. We will have sign-up sheets at the dinner for anyone interested in volunteering to work at the museum as well as helping at our events. The tickets have been distributed.

Debbie stated that we have Jack Russell for our auctioneer at the 5th year celebration. Letters to officials, organizations, etc. will go out on Wednesday or Thursday.

Debbie was unable to get any students to help us for the garage sale due to testing at the school that day, but Bob Childers has agreed to put his trailer on the side of the building beginning Tuesday, May 29th. We'll use that to store our donations received and then can lock it up until the day of the sale. Signs for the garage sale will go up on Thursday.

The pancake breakfast is all set with Chris Cakes. The Friendship Center is also reserved for that day in case of rain.

Debbie is still looking for a speaker for our Summer dinner. The person from Pure Michigan was unable to attend. She is looking into getting Dr. Chuck Cleland, who can speak to us on Indians that were in the Pentwater area.

The planters and signs are ready to go that are set up around town. Paula Aerts, from the Pentwater garden club said that they would provide the flowers and do the planting for us.

Debbie reported that the Sesquicentennial book should be available by the end of May. Hopefully, in time for the anniversary celebration.

Ed Bigelow got a letter from the Oceana Herald asking that we please keep them updated on displays and upcoming events that we have planned so that they can pass them on to their readers.

**Marketing:** Jim Lambrix was not at the board meeting so no report was available.

**Museum Operation:** Ed Bigelow reported that Affordable Gutters can possibly get started on the gutter project this week.

Ed reminded everyone that our museum clean-up is scheduled for Friday, May 11th starting at 9:00 a.m. Four students from Pentwater high school are coming to help. Ed reminded everyone to bring tools for yardwork and cleaning supplies for inside.

**Future Building/Land use Planning:** Norm Shotwell reported that Norm Booth is doing a new design for the ramp. He has also talked to Jim Henley about what a catering kitchen has to have for future discussions on the future building, etc.

Norm is also going to check with Tom VanLiere, who built a pole barn type structure for another museum, to get possible costs, etc.

Norm also suggested that we could possibly get a grant to get started on the “Past Perfect” project again. Jim Ege tried to get it started in the past and not much progress has been made on it. Mark Shotwell volunteered to check on what is needed from a funding prospective and we can go from there. Dick Warner pointed out that certain other things have to be in place before we can start on it like getting the upstairs organized first.

## **INITIATIVES**

**Fund Raising Project Planning:** Amy VanderZwart suggested that we could have a home tour with emphasis put on the historical aspect of the home and possibly bring items in from the museum that would add to the era that the home is from.

Norm Shotwell suggested having a “Twelve Days of Christmas” themed fund raiser. We would provide small trees for individuals or groups to decorate and then they would be auctioned off during some kind of Christmas themed open-house at the museum. We could have the decorated trees displayed ahead of time on the showcases in the museum and people could come in and vote for the best tree prior to the auction.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Castor and seconded by Ed Bigelow. It was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Gehringer - Secretary

