

PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board Meeting Minutes – August 8, 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, Ed Bigelow, Mark Shotwell, Debbie Deward, Jim Lambrix, Bob Childers and Amy VanderZwart

Board members absent: Michael Castor and Sally Ouweneel

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ed Bigelow to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Norm Shotwell and unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mark Shotwell to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on June 13, 2018. It was seconded by Jim Lambrix and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Castor emailed a copy of the financial highlights for June and July as well as the 2018 budget report. Also sent was a list of outstanding bills with a suggestion of which should be paid first.

Dick Warner suggested transferring \$4000 from our savings account to our checking account. It was felt by the board that if bills are due now they should be paid now. Dick Warner and Debbie Deward also had bills that they hadn't turned in yet so it was thought that more should be transferred to cover upcoming bills.

Mark Shotwell moved that we transfer \$5000 from our savings account to our checking account. It was seconded by Norm Shotwell and unanimously approved.

Membership Report: Mark Shotwell reported that we have a total of 357 memberships. There are 317 that are active and 40 that are late. A newsletter was not sent out to the 40 members that have not paid.

Dick Warner passed out a proposed letter to be mailed out to all members or to be put in the newsletter to change the payment of yearly dues to an annual donation instead. He also proposed that we go after more business sponsorships. The benefit to the businesses would be a mention in our newsletters, mention in

our PTW advertisement, recognition at our annual dinners and their name proudly displayed on our recognition board at the museum. We need approximately \$45,000 per year to keep the museum running. It takes about \$6,500 per year just to keep the doors open.

Dick asked if Norm Shotwell and Amy VanderZwart would write an official letter to send out to all members in September, prior to the newsletter. Dick volunteered to pay for the postage involved in mailing the letters out. Norm suggested that something also should be put in the PTW about it after the summer dinner. The last PTW for the season comes out on August 30th.

Museum Activity: Dick Warner reported that Tave Reser asked if he could use the Novadoc bell that is in the museum overnight for his daughter's wedding. It was moved to approve his borrowing the bell for one night by Ed Bigelow. It was seconded by Norm Shotwell and unanimously approved.

Dick also reported that he was given the Reser family history from the 1920's to the 1940's on a thumb drive for us to transfer. Dick was also loaned a cassette tape with a recording of Edith Anderson and her memories from the 1860's and 70's. He asked Mark Shotwell to transfer the information onto something we could use.

Eric from Consumers wants the Consumers display back. We have had it now for 1 ½ years. The Idlewild display will also be coming down on August 29th. Dick will then put the ship display back up.

Dick has made 50 copies of the Indian migration booklet that we've had on display in the museum. We will be selling them for \$10 each. He has given several copies to the library. A new price list sheet needs to be made.

The following dates were given for our upcoming 2019 board meetings. They are as follows: January 9th, February 13th, March 13th, April, 10th, May 8th, June 12th, August 14th, August 28th (summer dinner meeting), September 11th (budget meeting), and October 9th (review budget).

The following dates will be set up for collection dates for the village-wide garage sale: May 22nd, May 29th and June 5th.

Dick also said that the following items should be taken off the website: The picture of the newspaper reporting the Novadoc and the Immersion program. Mark Shotwell said he would do that.

Special Events: Debbie Deward reported that the summer dinner is Wednesday, August 22nd at 5:30. The speaker will be Ron Robotham. Tickets are now on sale.

Steve Bass and Mary Marshall would like to do a presentation for the board to find out how the PHS information can be incorporated into the plan for the future. It was decided that they would be put on our agenda for our October 10th meeting.

Debbie questioned whether we want two dinners for 2019? Norm Shotwell moved that we continue to have two dinners in 2019 and that we price tickets accordingly to make a profit. Mark Shotwell seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Ed Bigelow is going to give the VFW notice that we are going elsewhere if the rent can't be lowered for us. The friendship center is only \$25 and Debbie would like to give that a try.

Debbie reported that she has sent an email to the Hart High School for the cost of renting the auditorium for a presentation by Ric Mixter. She sent a separate email regarding rental for the cafeteria for possible hors d'oeuvres afterwards.

It was suggested that we do a tribute to Kitty Kokx at the 2019 spring dinner displaying her paintings and have her there to answer questions. It was felt by the board that we should only have an artist featured that shows a history of Pentwater in their art.

Recently, Debbie, Joan Gehringer and Amy LeBarge toured a beautiful, historic home that is at the end of Hanover St. and looks out over Lake Michigan. It will be turning 100 years old next year and it was offered to us to give home tours. Another possibility is to have a fancy dinner catered there where people would buy a ticket to attend. Parking would be a problem. Possibly golf carts could be used.

Marketing Report: Jim Lambrix reported that he is still working on getting the museum hours on the sign for the museum that is on Hancock St.

Museum Operation Report: Ed Bigelow reported that the area girl scouts visited the museum recently. Dick Warner hosted them and said that they asked many questions and seemed very interested.

Ed also reported that the picture of the 2018 graduating class of Pentwater School is coming soon for our collection.

The license and tickets are ready for the rifle raffle per Mark Shotwell. The rifle will be on display at the upcoming summer dinner. Mark will send out an email blast just before the dinner to tell everyone about it and to let them know that raffle tickets will be available.

Newsletter: Amy VanderZwart reminded everyone that articles for the next newsletter is October 1st.

She is still waiting for bios on some board members.

Amy is still looking for information on the Ida Jean B & B.

She was told by the present owner of Safe Harbor Inn, Suzanne Hutchins, that the history of Safe Harbor is at the museum.

Amy would also like more information on the Pines Hotel if anyone knows who she might be able to talk to about it.

PHS – Future Building/Land Use Planning: Norm Shotwell reported that he needs to get more information from Norm Booth and Gail Zink on the design they did for us in order to finish putting the grant request together for the ramp. He has been in contact with them via email but has yet to talk to them face to face. The grant request will not include the kiosk. Jim Lambrix questioned why we need to build a new ramp? Norm stated that the reasons were:

- a. To bring the ramp into ADA compliance
- b. Improve functionality of the ramp
- c. Beautify that side of the building

Dick Warner stated that ADA would probably give us an exemption for the ramp. Norm asked who he could contact about getting an exemption.

It was decided not to do anything about the ramp until someone questions it. Norm made the motion that we defer consideration of a replacement grant for

the ramp until we can afford it. Jim Lambrix seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

INITIATIVES

PHS Fund Raising Project Planning – 2019: The idea to have a casino night was revisited. Debbie Deward said she would look into it. Possibly have a company put it on for us. She will check to see if we would be allowed to use the Yacht Club.

Dick Warner would still like to do a calendar with old-time recipes.

Jim Lambrix is going to check on the feasibility of doing a golf outing next year.

Pentwater Memories: An idea that was brought up at our last board meeting to do videos on the memories of some of Pentwater's longtime residents was again discussed. Instead of high school students doing it this time like they did for the veterans, Ed Bigelow suggested just giving the residents guidelines and let them talk. It will be discussed more in depth at our October board meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dick Warner. It was seconded by Mark Shotwell and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Gehringer – PHS Board Secretary