

PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2019

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, Nancy Zielinski, Jim Lambrix, Debbie Deward and Sally Ouweneel

Board members absent: Mark Shotwell and Amy VanderZwart

Also present was Terry Roach who will be voted in as trustee at our summer business meeting on August 28th. He will replace Bob Childers who passed away suddenly several weeks ago.

Agenda: Dick Warner moved that we change the agenda so that the Treasurer's Report be moved down the list as Mike Castor had not arrived yet, but will be coming soon. It was seconded by Debbie Deward and approved.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 12th board meeting by Norm Shotwell. It was seconded by Debbie Deward and unanimously approved.

Membership Report: Sally Ouweneel will be sending out welcome letters with our new updated brochure enclosed to new residents in the area. She will get a list from the Village of Pentwater.

Mark Shotwell emailed a membership report to all board members prior to the meeting. His report showed that there are 325 members with five new members. There are still 65 members that are delinquent. Norm Shotwell wanted the board to start calling those that are delinquent, but it was felt that we should send out one more letter that explains everything and give them one last chance to pay. Norm will compose the letter to be sent out.

Museum Activities: Dick Warner reported that our summer intern, Hayden Best has done well. He was a big help to Dick. Hayden's payment for the summer was discussed. It was agreed that we should give him \$200 to cover gas. Dick would like to be able to go up to \$300. Norm Shotwell moved that Dick could use his discretion and go as high as \$300. It was seconded by Joan Gehringer and unanimously approved.

Dick would like a system for loaning out items. He will develop one and bring it to the next board meeting for approval.

More of the Schrupf books need to be brought down from the upper level of the Village Hall. Jim Gehringer will bring them down and deliver them to the museum.

Dick would like the table and 4 chairs that didn't get sold at the garage sale to be posted on Facebook for sale. Debbie Deward will take a picture and send it to Amy VanderZwart so that it can be posted.

Special Events: Debbie Deward reported that the McVoy cottage tour was a success. She sent both of the bus drivers an extra \$50 each as a tip. She would also like to give a \$200 donation to the First Baptist Church for their generosity in the use of their church van driven by Pastor Mark Lillie. Dick Warner moved that we send the church a \$200 donation. It was seconded by Debbie Deward and unanimously approved.

The "Celebration of Life" for Ed Bigelow went well. There were approximately 75 people at the celebration. Three tents that were set up the day before were destroyed by a storm during the night.

The bill from the Artisan Center for the two benches and flower pots in memory of Ed were \$450. Initially, \$1,000 was donated by Dick and Sylvia Warner for the memorials. That leaves \$550 for the plaque that Jim Lambrix is getting for the museum to commemorate Ed. Jim thought that would cover his cost.

The Dog 'N' Suds celebration for our volunteers is Sunday, August 18th from 1:00 to 3:00. We have 72 mugs for the volunteers. Nancy Zielinski is splitting the cost of the mugs with us since we already have the hot dogs and buns.

The Summer Dinner will be August 28th. Dinner is being catered by Q's Smokehouse. USCG Carolyn Smith will be the speaker. She will be telling about the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw. Karen Way has generously provided a room for her for the night at The Pentwater Abbey B & B.

Debbie said she would like to show the interviews of the long-time residents done by Bart Zachrich and Lucas Quinteros at the 2020 spring dinner. She would like to have a Luau theme.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Castor emailed the financial highlights for June and July along with the 2019 budget to all board members prior to the meeting. Nancy

Zielinski asked Mike if a comparison can be done to last year. He said that he could. He does know that the donations are down from last year, so far.

A motion was made by Norm Shotwell to approve the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Mike Castor and unanimously approved.

Marketing: The Homecoming float was a success. It won first place. Jim Lambrix will send a list of all of the people that were involved to Sylvia Warner so she can send thank-you notes out.

Jim Lambrix reported that quite a few businesses are interested in sponsoring the PHS. Sponsorship would mean that the businesses would be listed in our ad in the PTW and our newsletter. The ad would suggest that these businesses should be supported by all of our members. There will also be a list of all businesses supporting us on a poster board display at the museum.

Museum Operations: Nancy Zielinski reported that there were 551 visitors to the museum in July. Dick Warner moved that we do the extended hours (11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) again in 2020 starting on July 1st through Homecoming. It was seconded by Mike Castor and unanimously approved.

Nancy purchased and donated the 2017, 2018 and 2019 Pentwater yearbooks for our collection. The school will contact us when the 2019 yearbook is ready.

Nancy said that the Guide by Cell system is paid for through 2020. She hopes that another benefactor will continue with it after that. She reported that there were 89 calls on it in June and 163 calls in July.

There are now 10 interviews done of the long-time residents by Lucas Quinteros and Bart Zachrich. They plan to record an introduction to the video and then Lucas will do the editing and organizing. It should be done by Labor Day. Mike Castor suggested just putting one of the interviews on u-tube and our website as a teaser. We will be checking with Larry Konopka to see what the legalities of doing that are.

The walking tours were very successful. Nancy will check with Pam VanderPloeg to see if she will consider doing it again next year. Suggestions of doing cemetery and church tours were also mentioned for the future.

Terry Roach will be our new trustee and will also be our maintenance man. An upcoming project will be a new roof on the museum. Terry will get three bids and

the we will go from there. Norm Shotwell suggested that we have a fund drive for replacing the roof or try for a grant.

Also, we have the upcoming connection fee and then the hook-up fee on top of that which will total approximately \$5800.

Dick Warner thinks that the endowment fund issue with the community foundation should be checked out by Larry Konopka to get a legal opinion on it before we sign anything.

The Rifle raffle tickets will still be on sale at the summer dinner on August 28th. The winning ticket will be drawn that evening.

Newsletter: Amy VanderZwart was unable to be at the meeting, but all articles for the upcoming newsletter will need to be sent to her by October 1st. It was suggested that something be put in the newsletter about us needing a new roof.

Grants: Tammy from the CFOC said that we should submit our wish list in the fall. Items that should be on it are:

Three 10 x 10 tents (2 of Debbie's and 1 that was property of PHS that were destroyed in a storm in July)

Three more tarps for the garage sale (approximately 10 x 14)

Three more 8-foot tables and one smaller table for displays and sales on the Village Green

The above will be submitted by Norm Shotwell.

INITIATIVES

Dick Warner would like to put monthly recipes in the newsletters. Dick will supply the recipes.

Dick then went on to make a motion that as Mike Castor is retiring as Treasurer that we keep him on as a consultant until the end of the year. There were seven in favor of it and one opposed.

After much discussion, it was decided to send out a separate invoice to all annual members. Jim Lambrix will have it made up. Dick Warner will get an envelope ready to insert in the newsletter for donations.

Jim Lambrix has been talking to Jack Witt, owner of Snug Harbor about getting the old information booth painted. He says we own it. Jim will talk to him about moving it.

We will be having the January through April meetings in 2020 at the First Baptist Church.

Our next meeting is our business meeting at the summer dinner on August 28th.

Our next regular board meeting is on September 11th.

Mike Castor made the motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Dick Warner and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Gehringer – PHS Board Secretary