

## PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Board Meeting Minutes - May 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dick Warner at 1:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room of the museum.

Board Members Present: Dick Warner, Ed Bigelow, Mike Castor, Debbie Deward, Jim Lambrix, Joan Gehringer, Amy LaBarge and Bob Childers

Board Members Absent: Bill O'Donnell and Jim Ege

**Approval of agenda:** Two additional items were added to the agenda.

1. Red Barn Commitment
2. Past Perfect - volunteers for input and photography

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike Castor, seconded by Ed Bigelow and was unanimously approved.

**Approval of minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2016 minutes was made by Ed Bigelow, seconded by Dick Warner and was unanimously approved.

**Formal Election of new board members:** No new members at this time.

**Short updates:** Mike Castor asked for \$1100 to pay an insurance bill for the building. We have money for it in our account.

Amy LaBarge said that any change in the ad that goes in the PTW has to be made by this Friday. The ad will invite people to take a video tour. A picture was also added this year. The bill for the ad will be sent to Mike Castor, but the cost of it is being donated by Amy LaBarge's and Bob Childers' family foundations. The ad will be in all the PTW's throughout the summer.

Amy also stated that Ron Beeber will write an article highlighting our spring dinner, the opening of the museum, the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary party, the new video, etc. that will go in all of the area papers the day after the spring dinner (May 25<sup>th</sup>). Ron is also researching the using of an individual cell phone to access information on exhibits around the museum.

Jim Lambrix and Dick Warner volunteered to sit at the table in Pentwater for Founder's Day. A copy of the newsletter (sample only) will be there as well as other brochures, information on new membership, items for sale, etc.

Jim Lambrix said that all is now transferred from a flash drive to the computer regarding membership. We have approximately 140 life members which we are getting no income from.

Ed Bigelow said that there will be a village promotion committee meeting for the 2017 sesquicentennial on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00.

### **ONGOING ACTIVITIES STATUS REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's report:** Mike Castor handed out the April financial highlights. The only expenses in April were utilities and the entrance fee for the fund raising training that he is attending in June that is in Lansing. Ed Bigelow moved that we accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Bob Childers and unanimously approved.

**Grants:** Did not get the UPS grant. The application was fine but there were over 300 requests, so just too many applicants. They will keep the initial grant request for the future. There will be three more granting sessions this year.

Mike reiterated that we need to have grants ready to go for when a grant opportunity comes up.

Bill O'Donnell had suggested to Mike Castor that we need to find a funding chairman for the new proposed building. Mike stated that in looking for said chairman that we need to decide what we really want in a building before that can be done. Dick Warner suggested that we all read the initial mission statement and discuss at a committee meeting to be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> as to how we can move forward on this.

**Museum opening activities:** Dick Warner said that the milk bottle collection from Al Rosky is up. After Founder's Day we will set up the salt & pepper collection. Andy Todd will have the model of the Minch ready in June for display. Dick has also been working with Eric Gustad of Consumers Energy on an exhibit of the hydro project that was done. He has many artifacts.

Eric also said that Consumers has grants that are available that we could be eligible for.

The school and military areas in the museum will be reworked for a new look between Founder's Day and the grand opening of the museum.

Dick is also hoping to have the device set up to play the Brent Ashcroft video of the 1940 storm that ran on channel 13 in time for Founder's Day.

**Newsletters:** Kwik Print got the newsletter and they should be ready this Friday. Ed Bigelow will pick them up and Jim Lambrix will work on the labels so they can be sent out. Kwik Print also has the second sheet of stationery ready for us and Ed will also pick them up.

**Special Events:** Debbie Deward said that everything is secured for the spring dinner. She said that she still needed 10 x 10 tents for the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary event. Bob Childers said that he has one that we can use. Debbie also recommended a tape measure for the giveaway. Everyone agreed so she will go ahead and order them.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary Debbie said that Hanson's is donating the cake and that cookies will be baked by the special events committee. The service club will be doing popcorn and there will be a tin can raffle outside. The new video of the museum will also be running during the event.

She will have our 2017 calendars ready soon to sell this summer. Oceana Herald will print them. Debbie was wondering if she should put all of the regular weekly events that happen in Pentwater on it. Everyone on the board agreed that it should be added. It was also suggested to put the day and times that the museum will be open for the season. Also to be added will be the spring dinner on May 24<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 27, the pancake breakfast on June 25<sup>th</sup>, the ghost tour on August 10<sup>th</sup> and the summer dinner on August 23, 2017. Debbie will check with the VFW about dates for the dinners.

Membership forms will be printed by Kwik Prints. Two hundred will be printed. Half of them will be for the Chamber and the rest will be for us.

Drop off for the village garage sale will be on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 1:00. The garage sale will be Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Museum report:** Ed Bigelow said that the museum will be cleaned by Founder's Day.

The lawn will be mowed as needed throughout the summer at \$30.00 per cutting. All of the display cases, etc. need to be cleaned thoroughly. A general cleaning day will be announced.

**Museum hosting:** Amy LaBarge was concerned about getting enough volunteers to have the additional table set up on the village green for special events. It was suggested that the board members host as much as possible.

Amy will possibly be ordering a ship wreck map for sale at the museum. She will look into the cost of it. She may also be ordering more note cards when we sell what we have.

Dick Warner will be selling duplicate postcards in Hart in June. What doesn't sell could possibly be sold on Pay-Pal (the more expensive ones). Amy and Dick will make some reproductions of some of the postcards.

**Building and Grounds:** Clean up date to be announced.

**Web site status:** Jim Ege was not at the meeting. He was going to discuss distribution of email messages. That will be tabled for discussion at the next board meeting.

Dick Warner said he reminded Jim that the URL code needs to be moved to the front of the web site where it is more obvious and the newsletter is to be put on it, also.

Also, the board needs to be updated on the web site.

**Red Barn commitment:** Mike Castor said there is \$8,000.00 in an account that has been set aside for the barn. Should it continue to be held for that purpose or be put to better use? Ed Bigelow stated that the barn is actually owned by the State of Michigan. It was agreed to discuss it at a later date.

**Past Perfect, volunteers for input and photography:** Should we train and pay someone to continue doing it? Jim Ege's daughter was doing it. Mike Castor suggested going through Man-Power. It was tabled for discussion at the next meeting.

**Fund raising:** Has been under discussion throughout the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Gehringer  
Secretary