

Town of Horicon Historical Society – November 13, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Town of Horicon Historical Society November 13, 2023, Monthly Meeting was held at the Horicon Community Center and was called to order by President, Sylvia Smith at 6:00 pm. Board members present were Barbara LaFond, Kathy Hill, Diane Loika, Mary Ann Hill, Janet Early, Colleen Murtagh (Town Historian) and John Caruso via Skype. Other members present were Jim Ventura, Bob Smith, Jacob Smith, Jadon Smith and Barbara Blum.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 23 monthly meeting were provided to everyone by email prior to the meeting. Barbara LaFond motioned to accept the minutes as received and Mary Ann Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A copy of the treasurer's report for the Period of October 2023 was presented by Diane Loika. John Caruso motioned to accept the Treasurer's report as reviewed, Kathy Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Town Historian's report: Colleen Murtagh reported that she has been working on data base entry. She and Janet Early have met since the last Society meeting to collaborate on the Society website and shared ideas. Colleen has received requests for family information on the Untermeyers. Horicon resident Terry Hayes has provided photos on loan of a haying party at the Jim Person's homestead. An 8mm film from the decade of 1935 to 1945 is being converted to CD format by Paul Carstensen for future viewing. Colleen attended the Warren County Historians Meeting and provided insight into a collection from the family of Cindy Needham that is being investigated.

Historical Society President's Report: Sylvia Smith reported that she had attended the Adirondack History Alliance meeting in Chestertown with Janet Early and Jim Ventura. Janet (Society liaison to this Alliance) said the plan was to create a common Historical Society brochure by Summer of 2024 to include: a description of each Society/Museum member, and pointers on where to access the information for each participating Society including museum open hours and events. A map showing all of the museums will be featured as well.

- Horicon Fire Department has a glass door cabinet available for use in our museums. Diane Loika motioned to consider this donation, Mary Ann Hill seconded and the motion passed.

- A request was received, via our new Society website, from Mary Ann Weiglhofer of Plattsburgh NY, to consider acceptance of 3 Amelia C. Pfleuderer paintings. She inherited the paintings from a great aunt who was a friend of the Pfleuderer family. She thought the paintings were from the 1940's to 1950's. She thought it would be nice for the paintings to have a home in the town where the Pfleuderer's lived. Barb LaFond motioned to accept the paintings, Mary Ann Hill seconded and the motion was passed.

- A position, titled Museum Coordinator, funded by the Town of Horicon is available for consideration for 2024 and would be a large help to the Society board. The position would assist in setting up museum volunteer schedules, responding to phone calls for appointments

and must be advertised. Mary Ann Hill motioned that this position be advertised, John Caruso seconded and the motion passed.

- Work on the carriage house door replacement, supported by a Community Fund for the Gore Mtn Region grant, will be completed before the end of 2023 to satisfy the grant requirements.

The upcoming publication of our Society Newsletter is moving forward, letters and membership return envelopes have been printed. The Newsletter will be the introduction of our new website, first request for member emails to be provided and the beginning of our 2024 Membership Drive. Janet Early is compiling business addresses, Diane Loika is updating the membership addresses and the mailing labels will be generated. Discussion followed to reinstate the use of membership response cards. Mary Ann Hill motioned, Barbara LaFond seconded and the motion passed to have these cards printed asap.

Website Committee Report: Janet Early has obtained a proposal from website host evision to add the following sections to the new Society website: Museum Collections, Town History articles, add a SEARCH function, establish search categories where information will be entered, HHS monthly minutes and a section with pointers toward other Society's sites that are part of the Adirondack Historical Alliance. John Caruso motioned that the website enhancements with a budget not to exceed \$500 be undertaken, Barbara LaFond seconded and the motion carried.

Sunshine Committee Report: Barbara Blum reported that the committee has been active this Fall sending out many cards.

Nominating Committee Report: Barbara LaFond reported that the nominating committee continues to seek nominations for the position of President of the Society Board and one Trustee position, prior to the next meeting in December. The next meeting will include the slate for elections. Anyone wishing to run or provide nominations of members in good standing are urged to contact Barbara directly prior to the December meeting.

Snippet: An Icon, titled "Saint Nicholas, the Wonder Worker" was removed from storage in the Town of Horicon vault for this meeting. Members were encouraged to photograph and do their own research on the mystery item and bring any findings to the December meeting.

Winter Projects – The first Winter Project day hosted by the Town of Horicon Historical Society will be Friday 11/17/23 at 10 am at the Horicon Community Center. Sorting of files and photos will be planned. Volunteers, new members joining and residents are invited to help with this first in a series of planned workshops.

President Sylvia Smith opened the meeting for comments from the floor:

There was a brief discussion on the times/days that the two museums will be open in 2024. Mary Ann thought that Friday and Saturday would be good for Adirondack, from 11 – 4. For the Horicon Museum, Janet thought that 12 – 3 would be sufficient for Saturdays, based on

visitors in 2023. John thought that Thursday should continue to be staffed. But it might be sufficient to only staff a booth at Food Truck Fridays, rather than opening the Museum on Fridays, which had a sparse attendance this summer. Museum hours/days and opening days will be finalized at the December meeting.

Adjournment: Kathy Hill moved and Mary Ann Hill seconded the motion to adjourn and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Hill, Secretary