

Town of Horicon Historical Society (HHS) – June 9, 2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Town of Horicon Historical Society June 9, 2025 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 Kathy Hill, Barb LaFond, Janet Early, Mary Ann Hill, Diane Loika and John Caruso. Other members present were Jim Ventura, Bob Smith, Melanie Fuerst, Mike Hill, Supervisor Mike Geraci, Mary Jo Hebert, Camille Dougan, Horicon Historian Colleen Murtagh, Michelle Ryan, and Bill Ommerborn.

Minutes: Minutes from May 12, 2025, monthly meeting were provided to everyone by email prior to the meeting; hard copies were available at this meeting. Thank you to Janet Early, Vice President for publishing the minutes from May. Janet Early motioned to accept the minutes with corrections of (date should be May 12th versus May 11th), Mary Ann Hill seconded, and the motion carried. The minutes from the May 29, 2025 Adirondack Annex Workshop are attached to the May monthly minutes. Barbara LaFond motioned to accept the workshop minutes, Mary Ann Hill seconded, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A copy of the treasurer's report for May 2025 was presented by Diane Loika, Treasurer. Kathy Hill motioned to accept the minutes as received, Barbara LaFond seconded, and the motion carried. Kathy Hill asked questions about the CD that is held by Arrow Bank, Diane Loika clarified that the CD was for 9 months (ending on 10/12/2025) and will follow up with Arrow Bank and report at the next monthly meeting. Thank you to Diane for doing such a wonderful job as our Treasurer. Diane thanked all in attendance for their cards and well wishes following her recent injury.

Mail: None

Town Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Mike Geraci thanked all who attended the Adk Annex Workshop and updated the group on the following projects:

The Town of Horicon renovation project at the Adirondack Annex – NYS Dormitory Authority is the funding source for the grant being applied for by the Town. The Town is providing additional input and answering questions as part of the grant process.

Cedarwood Engineering is having a change of project engineers.

Town of Horicon Finance Committee is considering hiring Mike Hill as the project manager for the Adirondack project.

The Town Board will be asked to consider holding their August 21, 2025 monthly meeting at the Adk Annex.

Heintzelman Library – Adk Arch Heritage, the funding source for a grant on building repairs, clarified that construction materials need to be wood rather than PVC.

HHS Brant Lake location – continuing with ongoing building projects.

President's Report:

Sylvia thanked all volunteers for the large amount of hours being spent getting all museum locations ready for opening in 2025.

Thanks to Kathy Hill and everyone that submitted information and hours to assist with compiling and submitting three separate grant applications to CFGMR.

Thank you to John Caruso for his assistance with printing and reproducing photos for display in both museums.

Thank you to Rob Wallace, Horicon Parks & Rec Dept., and crew for assistance with moving museum boats, delivering and setting up chairs for Annex Workshop and grounds cleanup.

Thank you to Vicki for helping with the museum spring cleaning and Bobby Smith for hanging pictures and helping with window cleaning. Thank you for such a great turnout for the Adirondack Annex Workshop.

Thanks to Diane Loika for extensive office work and ordering cards for the Sunshine Committee.

Folders were handed out to all members in attendance which included: HHS 2025 Budget, Committees list, current updated By-Laws to replace previous copies, updated contact list, and current HHS Board Members list.

Sunshine Committee – No report

Historian Report:

Colleen Murtagh reported:

Searching for Rum Runners information

Submitted and will follow up on Adk Museum Annex Workshop - Nat Public Radio (NPR)

Working on a database of 35 years of articles and tidbits – 680 pages by category and family name, future plans to be accessible online. Two of her family members have access (for backup).

Will open the Heintzelman Library for Food Truck Fridays

Program Committee:

July 8 – Bats – Horicon Community Center 6 to 7 pm

August 16 – Garwood Boats presentation 12:30 pm – more details to follow

September 14 – Sunset Mtn Lodge – Museum post season celebration 6 to 7 pm

Old Business:

Workshop follow-up: Sylvia contacted LGTV (Channel 8) and is waiting for a response.

May 29th Adk Museum Annex Workshop – Kathy Hill motioned, and Mary Ann Hill seconded that committee work will now begin to move forward on the yard sale project. Kathy Hill, Mary Ann Hill, Melanie Fuerst, and Mary Jo Hebert were appointed as the sales committee.

Museum openings are set, and volunteer coverage is in place for each location.

Museum opening dates confirmed:

Adirondack Annex – Opening July 3rd

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays – 11 am to 3 pm

Mary Ann Hill, Melanie Fuerst, and Mary Jo Hebert

Brant Lake Museum – Opening July 3rd

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays – 11 am to 3 pm

Bob & Sylvia Smith, Janet Early & Jim Ventura, Diane Loika & Barbara LaFond, John Caruso

September – invitations to school students (Sylvia and Diane)

Private tours will be scheduled in addition to regular hours upon request

Food Truck Fridays – Begins July 4th

Barbara LaFond and Diane Loika will host the HHS table at the first Friday

John Caruso will represent BLA

New Business:

HHS Flyers – Sylvia Smith presented an “antiquated Horicon Historical flyer” for review and will seek the input of Margaret Holmes from Mather Media, to recreate an updated flyer. Current handouts will be used in the interim.

HHS Volunteer Shirts – anyone seeking a new HHS shirt please add their name to the list so an order can be placed. Our previous vender is out of business, and we are checking on a new one.

Acceptance and accession of new museum items:

Doll cradle, crib and chair all hand made by Bill Bruce for his family donated by Terry Bruce.

Linens from Lizzie Hill’s home donated by Jean Grant.

Grandma Mozes printed lamp shade/metal base and hat/sewing box donated by Ann Marie and Bill McKeon.

John Caruso motioned to accept these items and Barbara LaFond seconded, and the motion passed.

Barbara LaFond motioned, and John Caruso seconded to approve a purchase of historical log storage cabinets (2) not to exceed \$800, and the motion carried. Cabinets are to be used for preservation and display of archival material of the Brant Lake Fishing Club Logbook and the (loaned) Watch Rock Hotel Register (examples).

Privilege of the floor:

John Caruso advised that the Brant Lake Association (BLA) will promote the HHS July Program on Bats at their Ice Cream Social.

Mary Ann Hill advised that the Empire Buffet donated in 2024 is not a local artifact and should be removed from the Adk Annex. Barbara LaFond motioned, and John Caruso seconded that this piece be removed and made available for sale and the motion carried.

Kathy Hill and Mary Jo Hebert will be attending the June 12, 2025 ESSLA dinner meeting. Along with Wayne Butler, Kathy Hill, and Mary Jo Hebert, will share with ESSLA leadership that we approved meeting space following HHS logistics.

Adjournment: Mary Ann Hill motioned, and Barbara LaFond seconded to adjourn, and the motion carried. Our next meeting is scheduled for **July 14th at 6 pm at the Adirondack Annex.**

Our August meeting will be held at our Brant Lake Carriage House.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Hill, Secretary

Edited by D. Loika and J. Early