

Town of Horicon Historical Society (HHS) – December 8, 2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes and Annual Elections

The Town of Horicon Historical Society December 8, 2025 monthly meeting was held at the Horicon Town Hall and was called to order by President, Sylvia Smith at 6:0 pm. Board members present were Kathy Hill, Janet Early, Mary Ann Hill, Diane Loika, Barbara LaFond, and John Caruso (virtual). Other members present were Jim Ventura, Bob Smith, Mike Hill, Barbara Blum, Horicon Supervisor Elect Wayne Butler, Melanie Fuest, Louis Rambone, Historian Colleen Murtagh and Teri Schuerlein.

Minutes:

- Minutes from November 10th 2025, monthly meeting were provided to everyone by email prior to the meeting. Janet Early motioned to accept the minutes as received, and Mary Ann Hill seconded and the motion carried. Sylvia Smith thanked the team of Kathy Hill for typing, Diane Loika for editing and Janet Early for emailing the minutes quickly after each meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- Diane Loika presented the treasurer's reports for the Month of November 2025. Barbara LaFond motioned to accept the report as received, Mary Ann Hill seconded and the motion passed.

Mail: None.

Town Supervisor's Report:

Sylvia Smith presented Supervisor Geraci's report as he was attending a meeting of the Adirondack Association of Towns.

- Supervisor Geraci asked for a history of the Canton Bridge Company sign from the steel bridge formerly located at the South end of Schroon Lake, currently in front of the Adirondack Museum building. Sylvia Smith responded with its Historical significance to HHS and especially Adirondack. Sylvia suggested a plaque be made to identify the history. Mike Hill suggested creating an exterior display with description tag and Colleen Murtagh suggested that a framed photo with full description be placed inside the Annex for next season.
- Supervisor Geraci requested that window treatments of the preference of HHS be described for creation by the Town of Horicon. Mary Ann Hill, Mike Hill, and Sylvia Smith described their thoughts on valances and shutters for installation once the window replacement project is completed. Barbara Blum volunteered to assist in the creation of valances.
- Supervisor Geraci asked that former treasurer Mary Geraci be removed from the list of contacts at Arrow Bank, Sylvia Smith advised that this will be addressed when the board installs the newly elected Treasurer after this meeting.
- Supervisor Geraci extended his appreciation to the Board and membership of the HHS for their continued organization and maintenance of the structures and artifacts of the HHS.

Other Reports:

- **Accessions** – Janet Early and Jim Ventura continue to work on book #3 of accession recordings.
- **Holiday Decorations** – Vicki Monthony and Rob Wallace have done a great job of decorating with lights around the town, the Town Center, and at the Museums, featuring a lighted tree in the Brant Lake Museum gazebo which can be viewed from Route 8. They also displayed a lighted tree and candles in the Heintzelman building.
- **ESSLA** - Mary Jo Hebert, Janet Early and Diane Loika continue to work with ESSLA on behalf of the Society to create a presentation for the ESSLA 60th anniversary celebration currently being planned for Summer 2026.

- **Historian's Report** – Colleen Murtagh awaits response from NCPR radio and provided her report which is attached for November and December.
- **Adirondack Museum Annex** – Mike Hill reported that there are a couple of days left for window installation. After that there will be some interior painting required.
- **Horicon Museum** – Vicki Monthony has met with Warren County Fire Code Enforcement, and our museum has passed 100 percent. Inspection of the Adirondack Annex will occur in the Spring of 2026. The Carriage House has undergone display changes after the carpet installation. Bill Millington has donated his time to create framework and lighting for the recently donated Stonehurst/Stoneleigh original stained glass windows which will be featured in 2026.

Resolutions:

- Sylvia Smith asked for a resolution to accept the donations provided by Tom Baker: documents - deeds, land grants and an early 1900s quilt. Also, Dennis Tierney: antique frames - with photos to be researched. Mary Ann Hill motioned and John Caruso seconded that these donations be accepted and accessed and the motion passed.

Elections:

- Sylvia Smith thanked the Nominating Committee of Barbara LaFond, Diane Loika and Mary Ann Hill for creating the ballots for the 2026 election. Sixteen (16) attendees voted to fill the terms for Vice President, Treasurer and two (2) Trustee positions. Each position was unanimously elected as follows: Vice President, Mary Ann Hill – Treasurer, Bill Ommerborn, Trustees, Diane Loika and Janet Early.
- New HHS committee members will be appointed by the board in January, anyone who wishes to participate in a committee may contact Sylvia to be considered
- Thank you to retiring trustee Barbara LaFond, for her many years serving on the Board. Congratulations to the new Board members and, to those switching positions!

Privilege of the Floor: no comments

Adjournment:

- Janet Early motioned and John Caruso seconded to adjourn, and the motion carried. Next meeting, scheduled for January 12, 2026 at the Horicon Town Hall/Community Center.

This Meeting and the annual election was celebrated by attendees with a light fare and dessert buffet.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Hill, Secretary