

**Pawlett Historical Society
Minutes of Trustees Monthly Meeting
November 8, 2018
Pawlet Library**

Present: Barry Meinerth, Rose Smith, Judy Coolidge, Steve Williams, Theresa Jones, Marlee Mason, Keith Mason, Susan Hosley, Andy Mahurin, Matt Proft, Martha Schoenemann, John Malcolm
Also: Pawlet Library Director Mary Lou Willits

Minutes of PHS Trustees Meeting, October 4, 2018: Minutes were approved on motion of Rose and 2nd by Keith.

Treasurer's Report: Rose reported the Monthly Financial Report, and it was accepted on a motion of Judy and 2nd by Marlee.

Use of Town Hall Space for Exhibits: John reported on a recent Pawlet Selectboard meeting where he presented PHS interest in having a display case in the middle room of the Town Hall for rotating exhibits of items from the PHS collection, and our interest in using the upstairs auditorium at the Town Hall to host the Vermont Folklife exhibit "Up Home" of Neil and Susanne Rappaport's photographs of the Griswold home during six weeks this summer of 2019. The Selectboard response was favorable.

Library Strategic Plan: Mary Lou Willits, Pawlet Library Director, discussed the Library's endeavor of creating a Strategic Plan for the next 3-5 years and the Library's role in the community. Members of the Library Board and a facilitator have started meeting with individuals and community groups to gather information of both general aspirations and challenges and specific changes necessary to best serve the Town and the area. The PHS Board was favorable to participate in the undertaking during a monthly Board meeting, possibly Dec 13 at the Library.

"Up Home" exhibit: Mary Lou Willits also discussed the Library and PHS hosting the VT Folklife Center exhibit next summer for six weeks. The exhibit, organized by Eileen Travell and Ned Castle of the VFC, will be in residence at Bennington College from March 30 until June 11, 2019. The Pawlet Library's lower Matt Waite room is of adequate size but is handicap inaccessible. The Town Hall auditorium would be suitable with some issues that would need to be addressed such as display wall space and lighting, staffing and security. The Library has set the way for the exhibit and is happy to hand off to the PHS to be the host going forward. Matt Proft of the PHS will coordinate with Eileen and Ned in confirming the timelines and the issues to be addressed as well as possible connected programs to the exhibit. Marlee offered to look into some office cubicle walls that make be available from a renovation and may be suitable for display. Andy also continues to look into grants for historical uses.

Facilities: There was discussion about storm windows and black out at the Chapel Archive room and bathroom. A quote from Bob Morlino of \$1200 for the 4 treatments was approved on a motion by Keith and a 2nd by Susan.

The shed at the North Pawlet schoolhouse was suggested for use for collection storage and issues such as windows and lighting will be looked into. Also, a plexiglass cover is needed to preserve blackboard writings at the Braintree School.

Collection: Better photos will be needed in order to reveal foundry marks to market old wood stoves at North Pawlet School. The Collection Committee reported about their busy year of accomplishments and deserve much praise for many hours of work.

Fundraising: This year's raffle netted \$1015 and there was discussion about continuing with a furniture raffle or some other plan, or a windsor type chair. It was approved to thank Ray Finan, this year's furniture maker, with a \$150 gift certificate on a motion by Steve and a 2nd by Matt.

Farm Project: The lack of progress is of concern and John offered to continue with it if some technical instruction and a camera are available.

Events/Newsletter: Discussion of possible future events in 2019 and next Newsletter. Congratulations for a successful year of PHS programs to everyone!

Adjourn: Approved on Motion by Marlee and 2nd by Andy

Submitted by John Malcolm, PHS Secretary

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 13, 2018, 6:30 PM with Library Plan