

Pawlet Historical Society Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Pawlet Historical Society Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm on October 14, 2021 via Zoom by Barry Meinert.

Present

Barry Meinert, Rose Smith, Sarah Rath, Martha Schoenemann, Rhonda Schlangen, Theresa Jones, Susan Hosley, Judy Coolidge, Abbie Mahurin

Approval of September Minutes

Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9th, 2021 as amended to include Martha's list of research topics for commemorating local aspects of the Declaration of Independence and the Revolutionary War. Martha seconded, and the motion was carried with unanimous support.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Susan made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report. Theresa seconded the motion, and it was carried with unanimous support.

Farm Project Update

Ashley has committed to working on the farm project during school breaks and is all set to interview more individuals in the community. Sarah will follow up with Rose on whether Platt Herrick has already been interviewed. It was also recommended that Tim Bryant would be a good candidate for an interview. Rose will touch base with Ashley on her schedule and the next steps.

Collections/Artists Lab @ SVAC

Sarah indicated that she is meeting with 7 artists over the next several days at the North Pawlet School. Judy indicated that she would be in contact with Sarah about meeting some of the artists at the Braintree school. Rose indicated that Rick ensured her that this project would not require much time from any board members. She also added that this is part of a "class", so the artists are on a tight timeline to complete this project. There are 7 artists total, and no materials are to leave the North Pawlet School. It is believed that most of the artists are women.

Newsletter

Sarah indicated that we have a good lineup of items to be included in the upcoming newsletter: an article from Joyce Baker about the Butternut Bend General Store; a selection of 6th grade essays (selected by Judy); a follow-up about the Braintree School event; a message from Barry; a mention of the upcoming Annual Meeting; an ad from VNA

Membership Drive

Rose indicated that we have raised ~\$3,200 so far from the community. She included envelopes with the Appeals letter. Susan and Judy indicated that they will provide a short note in the next newsletter regarding the membership drive.

Monument

Barry initiated conversation about the proposed Pawlet Expedition monument in Pawlet village. Monica Kravitt now proposes the placement of the monument to the right of the Library near the Spruce tree. Rhonda expressed concern that the monument may not represent the community perspective of the encampment and the impact on the community through the Revolution. Others expressed concern about the monument being a statue of a soldier. Several members have expressed their disapproval of the monument to the Pawlet Selectboard. Barry will report back to Monica that the board does not approve the new proposed location of the monument.

Discussion of Mike Barbieri Presentation

Martha inquired if there was any feedback from the community regarding the Mike Barbieri presentation. There was no feedback from the community, and there was no further discussion of this.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will take place on November 11, 2021 in-person at the Library at 6:30pm for the board and 6:45pm for the public. We will decide the week before if we feel it is safe to meet in-person and post that information in all necessary locations informing the public.

Other Business

Rose indicated that we have another cemetery clean-up day in the plans for 2022 and asked for recommendations on additional cemeteries in Pawlet. She also proposed we think about other events we want to do in 2022 in addition to initial plans for Revolutionary War event in 2027. We will add this to the agenda for November.

Martha indicated that we no longer have any copies of Dorothy Offenson's first book on the history of Pawlet and proposed we have more copies printed. She recommended we have 100-500 on hand to provide to new community members, graduates, etc. We will add this to the agenda for November.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at time by Barry Meinerth. The next general meeting will be at 6:30pm on November 11,2021, at the Pawlet Public Library or via Zoom (TBD).

Minutes Submitted by Abbie Mahurin