

Delaware County Historical Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2015 10:00am

Present: Barbara Coleman, Peggy Kearney, Tom Kendall, Dick Meyer, Roy Scrimshaw, Mike Wood, and Tim Duerden. Minutes taken by Angela Gaffney.

Absent: Cheryl Boyd, Lillian Browne, Linda DeWitt and Frank Waterman.

I. Review of December 2014 minutes

Tom makes a motion to accept the minutes. Barbara seconds. All in favor.

Peggy asks if we are still looking for new board members since Sheila left. Dick says since the by-laws say we "shall have 10 members" we still have 10, so technically we don't need any more board members. All discuss and agree they would like to get more people from other towns represented at DCHA. Mike points out the History Conference is this year, perhaps we can see if anyone is interested in joining the board then. Suggestion mention in the invite to the conference we are looking for new board members.

Tom asks if the minutes have been sent to other historical societies. Answer: no. Suggestion to also put the minutes on our website. Especially after the growth this past year. Tim asks for clarification: he is to e-mail the minutes to the historical societies and also put it on the website. Peggy makes a motion to do this. Roy seconds. All in favor.

II. Committee Reports

Collections – Tim reports: **Cameron Reed collection** – in early January a couple of gentlemen dropped off a collection of papers meticulously ordered and collated of Cameron Reed. He was a minister at the First Presbyterian Church in Delhi, there is also correspondence both ways during WWII and family photos. It is a great collection. "**Poliopak**" was donated by the Delaware County Public Health Office. It is a device used to heat bandages to treat Polio.

Physical Plant – Roy shows article from newspaper about **septic systems**. Mike explains he stopped pursuing this after we discovered the system is right out front of the main building and Dave Clark suggested we not do anything unless there is a problem. Mike is happy to continue to pursue if the board wants. Discussion on septic and non-profits not getting any help from CWC on septic. The article references cleaning and maintaining, perhaps that should be looked into. Dick suggests we leave it alone unless there is a problem. Keep the article in the file. Mike reports on **tax credits**. NYS Preservation Office offers tax credits for historic properties on the Historic Registry. Think we can apply for the Frisbee house. You can get 40% of tax credit which would help pay for any work we want to do on the house. Mike explains it is a three-step process. First you contact the state to see if you qualify. Then you have the work done. Then the state checks the work and you get 20% from the state and 20% from federal. Dick asks who gets the tax credits. Since DCHA does not pay taxes. Mike explains it could be leveraged to help offset the contractor's cost. So they would get the tax credits and would charge us 20 – 40% less than what they quoted.

Programs, Publications & Exhibits – Tim reports: **County Office building** has a new exhibit. Samantha put together and installed it the first week in January. "Dreaming of Summer." We are also scheduled to put an exhibit at the County Office building in July. **Women's Exhibit** will replace the quilt exhibit, opening will be Friday, March 6th. It will coincide with Women's History Month.

Public Relations – Tim reports: **Newsletter** went out last week.

Finance – Roy Reports: Profit and Loss for Jan. 1, 2014 to Jan 20, 2015. The balance sheet shows we have \$760,000 in Fenimore, \$823,000 in DNB endowment. Reran the budget with the updated salary and health insurance. Shows a total of \$109,328 for employee expense (salary, health insurance, workers comp. etc.). The budget now shows a shortfall of \$26,678. It is difficult to figure income with the market fluctuations and not knowing what grants we might get. Barbara asks if we are diversified enough. Believe Fenimore and DNB have it set up in a good way. Roy would like to see 25% in growth and 75% for dividend, not sure if we can do that. Budget committee will need to sit down and take a look. Office expense will go up, need to upgrade Quickbooks with an expanded payroll package \$575, to be able to pay more than 3 people. Barbara

questions if we have enough money that we should start looking at hiring a CPA to help with budget and payroll to help take the pressure off Roy. Tim explains we used to have someone for \$100 a month, he did payroll and taxes. Dick says HMM has a company that does the payroll and 941s. Barbara would like to see how much it would cost.

Dick reports overview of Santora Bequest, see handout. Discussion on what everyone believes is the corpus of the bequest. Is it the amount of the investment left to us when she died or when DCHA actually received the money about a year later?

As of January 20 we have \$41,000 in our general checking account

III. Director's Report

Money received in January: FAM \$3,684, DNB endowment \$6,626, Henderson Trust \$1,400, NBT Lyon Trust \$557

Annual Appeal Drive has raised \$5,505 and we are about to send out the second letter.

Endowment Appeal Drive raised \$5,352 which was matched by the O'Connor foundation. Question on the time frame for the endowment grant. Tim explains the matching grant from O'Connor gives DCHA 3 years to raise the amount they will match.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

11:25am – 12:05pm Tim and Angela leave the room.

Tim reports

Winter/spring programs: the calendar of events went out with the newsletter last week. We have posters for people to take to hang up in their town of upcoming workshops, exhibit opening.

144th Re-enactment – Tim met with Brian last weekend. Brian has put together a first draft of the brochure. The dates are set for July 18 & 19. We moved it up a week because another re-enactment is going on in New York the last weekend in July which would take some of the re-enactors away from this. We imagine it will be bigger this year, so we will need more volunteers to help out. Barbara suggests putting a list of what volunteers are needed to the membership to ask for help. Peggy asks about the Saturday dinner. Suggests it be opened to the public to pay to come eat with the re-enactors. It could be a sort of fundraiser. Tim explains everything is still in the planning phase. Brian has a re-enactor who wants to cook the dinner for the men. Tim hopes to have the Delhi Fire Department do the lunch for the public. The Frisbee Evening will be back to the last weekend in July. Suggestion to contact the National Guard in Walton to ask if they have a tent we could borrow that they would set up. Discussion on not buying a tent because we would need a place to store it and people to set it up.

Bob Wyer Book – several visitors to the exhibit a few years ago suggested we do a book of Bob Wyer photos. Tim applied to the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation for a grant to produce a book. This would be a fundraiser if we can get all the printing and scanning costs covered.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

History Conference – April 25th from 1 – 4 pm. We invite folks from Historical Societies, town and village historians. Mike would like to see the Maywood Depot historical society come. Tim will invite them

Peggy mentions CWC education grant; suggests applying for P3. Tim explains he already applied to the Santora Trust for P3, but if we don't get it he will try the CWC.

Next Board Meeting: Friday February 20, 2015 – 10am

12:30pm Tom makes a motion to adjourn, Barbara seconds. All in favor.