

Delaware County Historical Association Board Meeting
Friday, January 13, 2017 10:00am

Present: Barbara Coleman, Tom Kendall, Kay Parisi-Hampel, Ginny Sanford, Roy Scrimshaw, Mike Wood and Tim Duerden. Minutes taken by Angela Gaffney.

Absent: Dick Meyer, Peggy Kearney.

I. Review of October 2016 minutes

Tom asks if minutes are taken at the annual meeting, if not, they should be. Tim suggests we write some retroactive minutes for this last annual meeting for the records to show who was elected and Angela will take minutes at the next annual meeting. Roy makes a motion to accept the minutes. Ginny seconds. All in favor.

II. Committee Reports

Collections – Walter Rich items – Tim reports. Don Bishop director of the O'Connor Foundation contacted DCHA about 3 – 4 months ago. Walter Rich was an avid collector of railroad stuff who died 9 or 10 years ago. There was an auction 2 years ago and Dave Reardon from the U & D railride had money from an anonymous donor to buy as much as he could. The stuff has been stored in a closet in the railroad shed. Don asked if DCHA could store the small stuff temporarily and write up a description. They say there is money for our time. Technically it is not museum practice to do long-term storage for other organizations or individuals, but exceptions can be made. Before Christmas Tim and Angela went to Fleischmanns and Arkville and looked at the larger stuff with Don and Dave. The smaller things, framed pictures, paintings, lanterns and blankets were picked up by Don and Tim yesterday. We will work up a full inventory and send it to the U & D board with a loan agreement. We will keep track of what we do and our time spent on it.

Physical Plant – Mike reports – The main building needs maintenance on the board and batten – a lot are loose and need to be refastened. Would like to hire a part-time handy man to do the work this summer. Best to do preventative maintenance than have to replace everything. Tim suggests the mowing crew in the summer often look for extra jobs, they may be able to do this. Mike asks when the tree in the cemetery will be taken down. Tim reports we did contact Pasternak and he said he would take it down. He was just waiting for the ground to freeze. HSR (Historic Structures Report) on the Frisbee House. Mike would like to discuss some of it in more detail. Recommendations on the porch. Tom agrees he wants to discuss the report too. Need to look at the recommendations and see what can be done. Roy suggests these are things that state funding might be approached for. Barbara suggests we need to come up with a priority list and/or maintenance plan. Roy asks about the church. What can we do with it? Suggests destination weddings are big business. Tim explains to new board members the history of the church, lack of parking and facilities. Mike mentions other ideas discussed before such as renting to another organization or artisans. Brief discussion on moving the church and cemetery. If the church is moved it will lose its National Registry registration. Cost of moving, where would the money come from? Other options would be to sell the church or gift it to another group. Question if there is anything in the paper work,

restrictions on selling the church? Ginny says the Fergusonville church was donated to Davenport and they sold it. Roy likes the idea of rental and having them fix it up. Find an artisan or artist. Suggestion on putting an ad in the *Community Directory* for this. Kay suggests contacting the RAG to see if they know of any artisans looking for a place. Tom agrees. Tim will contact RAG to see if they have any suggestions.

Programs, Publications & Exhibits – Tim reports: **Newsletter** went out in December, it had a calendar of events in it. **Women's book** event on December 10th went well. To date we have sold 120 books. Thanks to the generosity of Mary Jane and Barbara, all sales have been clear profit.

Public Relations – Tim reports: **newspaper articles** – *Reporter, Star* and *Mountain Eagle* all had articles on the *Hats Off* book.

Finance – Roy reports: The net income for last year showed \$13,670. He has not updated the FAM account in Quickbooks yet. Still need to do that. The Profit and Loss from Quickbooks shows it was very close to what was budgeted.

Tim reports: As of January 13 we have \$48,967 in our general checking account. The Endowment drive raised \$4,600 plus O'Connor match; Annual Appeal drive raised \$5,200. Received Investment Income: FAM - \$4,344; TUA – \$5,032; Henderson - \$700; Lyon - \$517. We received our final payment for O'Connor GOE - \$11,000 making a total of \$20,000 for the year. DeGroat donation - \$7,000 is an anonymous donation we receive each year. Thomson Trust something new. Tim went to the Thomson Trust and Burchan Trust and asked for \$5,000 each to cover the plaster work in the Frisbee house. The Thomson trust gave \$2,500 and said if they had any more left at the end of the year they may consider giving more. They just sent a second check, making it a total \$5,000 for the FRH plaster work. Burchan Trust asked to meet with Tim and discuss a different idea than a one-time donation. The Burchan Trust set up a separate endowment of \$30,000 for DCHA managed by Community Bank in Oneonta. DCHA will receive the dividends from this, between \$1- 2,000 each year, on a quarterly basis. This does not help a great deal in the short run, but in the long term it is very good.

III. Director's Report

SCRLC grant – South Central Regional Library Council – We received promise of a grant to digitize our women's suffrage collections. Ray is working on digitizing the Cannon collection for this grant. The scanned items will eventually end up on their website. *The Daily Star* also did an article on this.

LGS received – Walton, Kortright, Delhi, Meredith, Hancock all gave \$500. Franklin gave \$1,200.

Del. Co. support 2017 – Tim received word that DCHA will receive \$9,000 from the county for 2017. This is the same we have gotten the last few years.

Winter/spring calendar – went out in newsletter. Have posters of upcoming events for people to take and put around. The next event is Desserts and Diaries, Saturday Jan 21st. It was well attended last year. Ray, Tim, Sam and Angela will be reading from DCHA collections while people enjoy a dessert buffet.

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

Roy reports all the tax forms are done, the NYS45 and 941. Just have to do the W-2 forms.

Tom would like to have the Strategic Plan put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mike reports Sidney Historical is going through hard times. The building they were in (Sidney Civic Center) was sold and they have to move out. All their collections are going into storage while they fundraise for a new location. Looking to buy a building.

Tom reports Harpersfield just put up a 2-story barn for their larger equipment. Looking for grants to get cement put down. Have some old farm machinery; horse drawn sleighs and buggies, grocery wagon have been donated.

11:08am Roy makes a motion to adjourn. Mike seconds. All agree.

Next Board Meeting: Friday February 10, 2017, 10am.