



Montgomery Historical Society
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MONTGOMERY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of Meeting
Public Safety Building, Montgomery Center

Wednesday, November 28, 2012 @ 5:30 PM

THESE ARE THE UNOFFICIAL MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

Board Members and Members present:

Board Members – Scott Perry, Marijke Dollois, Pat Farmer, Parma Jewett, Ken Secor

Scott called the Meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

1. **Recognition visitors/guests:**

None

2. **This Month in History:** 1792 – Franklin County established. 1901 – St. Isidore's consecrated.

3. **History Quiz:**

Montgomery voter turnout in the recent election was the highest in Franklin County.

- What percent was it? A. 57% b. 65% c. 68% **d. 72%**
- Richford was the lowest. What percentage was it? A. 42% b. 49% **c. 52%** d. 63%
- Other than being Republicans, what is a political/policy connection between Vermont's Chester Arthur and Gov. Mitt Romney?

Chester Arthur passed legislation outlawing polygamy; Mitt Romney's grandfather practiced polygamy as allowed at the time by the Mormon Church and had to move to Mexico where Mitt Romney's father was born.

4. **Show and Tell:**

Scott showed his certificate received at the LLHS presentation in Woodstock. Dave Thomas from the Russell Vermontiana Collection in Arlington, VT was awarded a certificate for 57 years of service; he sent Scott copies from an unknown 1939 newspaper article about Blacksmith Frank Hooper and a Yankee Magazine article June 1990 about our covered bridges.

5. **The Main Event:**

Minutes:

Ken made a Motion, seconded by Pat to approve the Minutes of October 17, 2012 as written; Motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report – 11/28/12:

Checking balance	\$ 2,294.15
Lalia Pratt Hays CD	596.51
Stained Glass windows CD.....	5,806.77
Michael Domina Print S/A.....	708.27
Savings Account – West Wall	\$ 17,097.20

76 Affinity members

The West Wall Savings Account reflects \$1,000.00 received from the Betty Stanton Estate.

Parma made a Motion, seconded by Ken to authorize Sue to request the TD Bank Line of Credit be raised from \$20,000 to \$100,000; Motion was unanimously approved.

The Affinity Program will change after the 2013 distribution; membership will be based on new accounts opened and a new formula.

Ken made a Motion, seconded by Parma to accept the Treasurer's report as written; Motion was unanimously approved.

Membership:

Marijke reported 217 members have renewed for a total of \$11,360.00. Pat made a Motion, seconded by Scott to accept the Membership report as presented; Motion was unanimously approved.

Old business:

- A. Town History Book update – Scott and Marijke will go over the draft for any grammatical/spelling errors and for inclusion any final changes/corrections after the New Year.
- B. Christmas Social Plans – the Holiday Social will be Friday, December 14th; Scott will email/mail invitations to the membership. Lois will open Pratt Hall for the wedding on the 15th.
- C. C&C date/plans – the date will be Sunday, Dec. 23rd at 5 PM.
- D. Pratt Hall work – Stained Glass Windows evaluation/decos/electrical/CEA debrief.

Scott to contact Mr. Rebecki to set up a date and time for him to come and evaluate the removal of the windows.

The left outside electrical outlet does not work; Scott and Ken will check this out.

All the decorations are up – the building looks beautiful.

Parma reported that the last CEA presentation was not that well attended in spite of excellent artists.

- E. Regional Expo – if the MHS is going to host next year’s Regional Expo it was suggested that the best time would be in August to coincide with HarvestFest. The next Regional Meeting will be held in Alburg at which time the Expo can be discussed.

- G. Dr. Tortolano Program/Concert – repair of the organ and further discussion of the concert program to be determined. If the program is extensive perhaps it can be included in the Concerts by the Common series.

- H. Radar scope:
 - 1) Teaching American History Grant – no report
 - 2) Domina print fundraiser update – no report
 - 3) Old maps project.....making progress – no report
 - 4) Grant writing Western Wall – Scott has researched some grants available; there are some available in the \$75,000 to \$100,000 range.
 - 5) Ave Leslie Presentation – no report
 - 6) Beers Atlas and large County Map acquisition – no report
 - 7) Refurbished sign – Parma reported that the sign will be ready by Christmas
 - 8) Piano – Scott arranged to accept the piano from the donor in Massachusetts and will send a receipt; in return he sold the piano for \$1.00 and considerations to Steve Hays who will now be responsible for storage; the MHS will pay for any tuning if the piano is moved and used for a summer concert.
 - 9) Heaton House painting and shed demolition – this will take place in the spring.
 - 10) Plan for Capital Campaign/Possible Investment – no report
 - 11) Stanton Memorial Gift...Cash/Granite Bench – a \$1,000 gift was received (see Treasurers Report above); Betty’s children would like to place a granite bench on the property; Parma suggested instead new display cases. Scott will send a “Thank You” and report any further development on a bench or otherwise.

6. **New business:**

Scott reported that he attended a meeting representing the Selectboard and the MHS with State engineers and Jan Lewandoski to discuss the restoration of the Longley Bridge; the State is responsible for the restoration and the cost will be covered by a Transportation Enhancement Grant and a National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program grant with a percentage to be paid by the Town of Montgomery. The goal is to preserve the design and use as much of the original structure as possible, which will most likely be limited to the roof. A study will be made of the scope of repairs and cost (\pm \$1,500,000). There will be an open informational meeting in Town after the study has been completed.

7. **Adjourn:**

Pat made a Motion, seconded by Ken to adjourn at 6:50 P.M. Said Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marijke M. Dollois