

Minutes of the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society

August 24th, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President, Judy Nelson. All those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

We had 4 members of the local DAR chapter visiting with us and they introduced themselves.

A thank you was given to Nancy and Jack Briggs for hosting our annual picnic. It was a lovely evening.

Minutes of the June meeting were read by Secretary, Rita Russell. They were approved as read.

Judson House-Judy indicated that the Mommy and Me Tea was cancelled due to lack of interest. The did have a kid's game day and made \$23.

Jim Edwards indicated that the Museum has been busy. He indicated that if room becomes available in the Museum, Jack and Nancy Briggs indicated that they have some memorabilia from the War of 1812 that they would like to present. He indicated the Washington Trail Summit is being held in Cranberry Twp., Pa on October 4th. We will have some representation since we are the end point on the trail. He indicated that Muzzleloader Magazine has Part 2 of the article re: Gov. Dinwiddie's Ultimatum.

Kathy presented the financial statements from June and July. Our balance in our regular account in June was \$36,370.04 and in reserved accounts \$40,905.53. The July balance in regular accounts was \$29,308.89 and in reserved accounts \$40,926.62. The reports were left for audit.

Eagle Hotel-Kathy indicated that 2 of the AC units and the wiring for them have been replaced. If we get a grant we will replace the 3rd unit. This was done on an emergency basis, since we could not have the restaurant without AC. She did get one quote to bring all of the wiring up to code and it was \$20,000. We will look for other quotes.

On one of the recent storms lightning struck the Eagle. There was no damage, but we did discover that some flashing needs to be replaced in the kitchen.

Teaching garden-we are waiting to hear back from Wander's re: a layout. The first thing to go in will need to be water. We have the money for that, but it appears it will be spring before that happens.

Witches Tea-There are 3 sessions scheduled. 1 on October 6 and 2 on October 7. Cost is \$25.00. It benefits the Judson House.

Amazing Race-this is being held in conjunction with the Corry and Union City Historical Society's. It will be held the week-end of October 14th and 15th.

Tour of Houses will be held the week-end prior to Thanksgiving. Joanne Lenart-Weary is in charge of this.

Colonial Christmas will continue to be the first week-end in December. A meeting for this will be held at the Museum at 7 p.m. on Sunday Oct. 27.

We have applied for a \$12,000 grant from ECGRA. This would enable us to finish the slanted floor at the rear of the Judson House, place railing on the stairs going to street from the Judson House, purchase some exterior security cameras and do some electrical work at the Eagle. This is a matching grant.

We received word re: the lawsuit at the Eagle that our insurance will not be involved. Since we are listed as an additional insured on Sugar 'N Spice's policy, it will be handled by them.

If you did not get a recent newsletter it is because your 2017 dues were not paid. If you think you paid them let us know and we will check.

Ed Pfadt has presented us with a list of several long and short-term project for the campus wish list. We will be putting together a committee to work on them. If there is something you are interested in, let Ed know.

Anita Palmer has written a new book about the Waterford area. It is 233 pages. Zona is going to edit it. Hopefully we will have it available for the Holidays. Anita has written it and donated it so that all funds and ownership will be credited to the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society.

We had \$936 pledged during ERIE Gives. It costs us \$150 to register for Non-profit Erie to be eligible. We need to make a decision re: the feasibility of continuing.

We applied for a PA Historic Preservation Grant and were denied. They indicated that they have no money.

They are copies of the Life Style magazine that was in the Erie Times available that had a nice feature on Waterford and on our campus.

Titusville Historical Society is having a genealogical conference at Drake's Well on Oct. 21. If anyone is interested, see Judy.

We have \$93,000 in artifacts at the Judson House that belong to the Commonwealth of PA. They want us to insure them, however, we cannot, since we do not own them. There will be further discussion re: whether to return some, any or all to the Museum Commission.

Work on accessioning is going on at the Judson House. Heidi and Barb Rejzer both know how. Melinda Meyers is working with Heidi to have Mercyhurst students come out and do a complete inventory of the Museum and Judson House. We have a couple that is working on the Eagle.

We would like to send letters to the surrounding townships requesting any clean fill they might have to make the bank at the parking lot not so steep. This would be discussed with boro first.

We have discussion about the possibility of adding on to the Museum. We also need some architectural help re: fire escape steps on second and third floors at the Eagle so that they can be used for exhibits. Jeff Kidder has agreed to come out and give us some advice at no charge.

We would like to offer a class on cleaning tombstones. It would take place on October 7 from 9-12. We would furnish the solutions and equipment needed. The Waterford American Legion is giving us some of the money to cover the equipment. Class will be limited to 25. We will offer to our members, DAR and American Legion members first and the cost will be \$25. A motion was made by Jim and seconded by Zona that we offer this class. We will receive proceeds from teaching the course. The local DAR chapter will become partners with us in providing the service and any proceeds from grave cleanings will be split with them. Motion carried.

Jack Mathay has written up a proposal to build a 2- bay blacksmithing forge shop on property of the Museum. It would teach the 12 basic skills of blacksmithing. A motion was made by Gene that we should proceed with the project if we can get a grant and proper clearances. Patrick seconded. Motion carried.

A recommendation was made that we amend our hours of operation to Friday and Saturday from 10-4 and Sunday from 1-4 at the Museum and Judson House. This will occur when we reopen for the season in 2018 since we need to amend our advertising. Motion was made by Zona and seconded by Jack and carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim and seconded John and carried.

Following the meeting John Chizmar showing pictures from many of the events throughout the year. Thanks, John.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Russell, Secretary