

Minutes of the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society General Meeting
September 26, 2019

Meeting called to order followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the June 27th meeting were read and approved with no changes.

Treasurer's report given by Cathy Krall.

Judson House – Kitchen cabinets have been installed. Kitchen floor needs replaced as it is a hazard and has burn marks. Heidi is looking for linoleum and will bring sample choices to next board meeting. Heidi also wants window darkening shades and will get price and bring to next board meeting. Two dehumidifiers are needed as artifacts are getting damaged by moisture. ECGRA will be doing a grant presentation and press conference at the Judson House on October 8th. They are also hosting the Erie Yesterday Meeting in October.

Museum – Pat Jenks has a relative that is an architect who plans on coming out to give us ideas. More information to follow. The George Washington Symposium will be held in Cranberry Township with Leon Briggs being one of the main speakers. This is sponsored by the George Washington Trail Committee. Jim, Don Pearce and Cindy Kreider will be attending.

Eagle Hotel – Lighting problem has been corrected as well as a broken step. Considered replacing the entry step but decided not to as there are handrails on both sides for safety. The stair is also an important historical part of the building. We had a grant from last year for painting and glazing all the windows and the Eagle name overhead at the front door. Campbell Painting has completed the work this week for \$2550, leaving grant money left over.

FLB Center – All the paperwork has been submitted to the credit union. An appraisal company has been approved to work on this. They are scheduling an attorney for the legal paperwork which will take 15 to 30 days for ownership. We are seeking tax relief for the downstairs portion of the building. The prior tenants have moved, and all repairs are completed. Rent has increased from \$450 to \$650 plus utilities. The Shields' have also given Chris notice to move out of the back area by October 31st. He has been renting on a month to month basis since January. We need this space to bring in our goods to work on it during the Winter. We are going to apply to the borough for a grant for the façade work to be done by Jesse Fiske, which he will put in his Spring schedule. After we get ownership of the building, we have several helpers to get things started. Rosemary Lugaila has given us a refrigerator for the center. We will start scheduling events at that time. To date, our events have raised \$18,000, which covers everything for the transaction. (Approx \$10,500 from Waterford Days, \$3500 Golf Outing, \$2000 purse bingo and a donation of \$2000) As stated prior, no monies will be used from the main Historical Society account of \$40,000. Benny saw the appraisal in progress September 25th.

Washington Park Teaching Garden – Planters built by Jim and Leon are in place and Jim will be getting soil soon. This is a new design of raised beds. Don Pearce asked to be included in this project. Don and Cindy will give an update at next board meeting.

Other Business: Witches Tea October 5th and 6th (3 and 7 pm Sat., 1:00 Sunday) tickets available for \$25 online. We have 15 reservations to date. Seating is limited. We will be having another candlelight tour of the Judson House during the Ghost Walks at same charge as Waterford Days. More information to follow next month. JoAnn Lenart Weary needs people to do the walks the last Friday and Saturday of October at 6, 7, and 8 pm. The information is already prepared for study for anyone interested in giving the walk. You also get an app for your phone to follow. We will supply the mics.

We were going to apply for a Anchor Grant for \$25,000 for our properties but did not. The borough was awarded \$249,000 and we are going to apply to them and can apply each year. As soon as the borough gets their program together, we will be applying. We want to do the sidewalk from the Judson House to the museum.

Bosco tickets are still available for \$5 to be used in Wednesday, October 16th for an extra 25% off merchandise. Store is open from 8 am to 11 pm for this event.

The by-laws are being reviewed this year. Don Pearce has agreed to head the committee. He would like to hear from members for any changes or additions and will consider all requests.

Our lease is also up. Our lawyer, Chris Sinnott, said there were several loopholes in our contract and has agreed to review it and make changes for us at no cost. This is his area of expertise.

Current slate of officers was read as follows: Judy Nelson, President, Cindy Kreider, Vice-President, Cathy Krall, Treasurer, Rita Russell, Recording Secretary, Marsha Strohmeier, Corresponding Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor. Will read again at the October meeting.

Colonial Christmas has been permanently changed to the weekend after Thanksgiving due to other well-attended events being held at the same time. Much help is needed decorating trees at the Eagle, Escape Rom, and many other places.

The GECAC 20 hours per week paid volunteer program was not what it seemed and will not work for us.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Simcheck