

Starksboro Historical Society (SHS)

Date: 08/05/2024

Location: Meeting House

Time: 6:34PM - 8:08PM

OFFICERS PRESENT: Dan Baker, Kevin Hanson, Herb Olson, Peg Casey, Ruth Beecher

MEMBERS/VISITORS PRESENT: Elsa Gilbertson, Carolyn Gibson, Reed Cousino, Mike Blakeslee, Cecilia Elwert

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ruth and Kevin collaborated to create a donation receipt template which was used to send out the first donation receipt. Kevin shared the membership spreadsheet which was used to send emails with minutes (April, May, June) to life members including link to website, next meeting date, and gratitude for being life members. Need updated contact information for some members. Minutes for 7/22/24 and 6/24/24 were moved, seconded, and accepted with no discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin reported current balance as \$2,743.18, with deposits totalling \$434.13 (membership dues, fundraising, donations, interest), expenses totalling \$49 (Recollector software), and accruals totalling \$200 (Secretary of State corporate filing). Two donors need donation receipts which Ruth will send. Kevin talked with Reg Dearborn regarding Gerald Heffernan's estate, and received a packet of annotated photographs (photocopied) for our collection.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS: SHS will host the historical film production, LOST NATION, at the Meeting House on Friday, September 20 from 6:30-8:45ish which includes a Q&A with producer Jay Craven. During the Q&A, historical fiction/poetic license will be discussed in addition to community member questions.

Admission will be offered for free to the community with donations from individuals and sponsors welcomed. SHS will front the costs including \$500 base fee, \$100 projector fee, \$25 poster fee. Proceeds will be split 50-50 with Kingdom County Productions if donations exceed our base costs. We will donate \$100 to the Meeting House for use of space, possibly revisiting this amount depending on the total amount raised.

To handle donations for this event, discussion ensued regarding funneling money through the Town Clerk's Office/Town of Starksboro. Peg Casey will check with Amy McCormick and let us know. Plan B would be to have donations sent to Dan Baker and Kevin Hanson, possibly through a new PO Box for SHS business.

Dan and Ruth will reach out to potential sponsors. Ruth will post a Save-the-Date message on Front Porch Forum this week, with reminders and more information in subsequent two-week intervals until the event date, Sept 20.

In order to stay within the Meeting House seating capacity, which Kevin will check, we will explore Kingdom County Productions ability to use their online portal for free tickets. Ruth will pursue with Nicole Doerges, associate producer, along with any other necessary followthrough.

We will invite area Historical Societies and community members in other towns via Front Porch Forum, but will wait until the portal information is available, along with where to send donations. A special invitation will be issued to New Haven in honor of Justus Sherwood, a character in Lost Nation who was born in Connecticut in 1747 and settled in New Haven, Vermont.

We decided to forego refreshments for this event.

There is one Porto-Potty near the Town Pavilion - who will check to see if it is available for use at our event? Should we rent another one? The bathroom in the Meeting House is down a narrow staircase and not clearly marked.

Once all logistics are finalized, Kingdom County Productions (KCP) will create an advertising poster which we will have printed at Kimballs (how many?) to post in area towns. KCP will also send us additional promotional materials.

Kevin offered to be the point person on Sept. 20 to open the Meeting House and lock up when done.

At our next meeting on Monday, Sept 9, we will finalize remaining details, including content opening discussion (where proceeds will go, overview of SHS and Meeting House building, McCullough Turnpike program in October).

OTHER BUSINESS: A motion was made, seconded, discussed and approved to amend the bylaws having the Treasurer (not Secretary) maintain membership list, with the Secretary sending donation receipts for membership dues and other donations as they are received. Kevin will post the bylaws on the website once they are thus revised.

Mike Blakeslee gave Kevin a folder of photographs from Starksboro's Bicentennial event donated by Carolyn Gibson for our collection. Mike also mentioned he is trying to pin down a date with John Croft in early October for the McCullough Turnpike presentation at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse.

PARKING LOT:

PO Box procurement

Vermont Historical Society (VHS) membership

Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA)

Future Meetings: how often to meet, create schedule (day of month, time, location)

PROGRAM IDEAS:

Pat Melvin music

Robinson School students at Meeting House

SHS event combined with Select Board's monthly community event

Ice Cream social

Crown Point Bridge sharing

NEXT MEETING:

Date: Monday, Sept. 9, 2024

Time: 7:00PM (note time change - not 6:30)

Location: Meeting House

CLOSING: Meeting adjourned at 8:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Beecher