Walkersville Historical Society

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 30, 2022, 6:30 pm 35 W. Pennsylvania Avenue / Jamison Building

Attendees: Kathryn Nicodemus, John Nicodemus, Bob Hellmuth, Bonnie Leins, Leah Fleming, Penny Rife, Chris Leins, Marianne Urban, and Ed Sell

Remembering Charlie Nicodemus (Everyone)

Kathryn shared many stories about Charlie from their first date, engagement, marriage, community, and interest regarding their historical perceptions. John shared stories about the town stores during their childhood. We were all grateful for their attendance during this very difficult time.

Finance (Marianne)

Kathryn submitted to Marianne $100 (cash) for her request for property research work, (35 Fulton Avenue) and $20 (cash) for the sale of two books (*Tale of Two Villages*) on May 7th.

History Display Boards (Bonnie)

Bonnie spoke with Madeline Shaw, Town of Emmitsburg Grants Administrator regarding the history boards the town had recently erected. The town applied for grants through Maryland Heritage Area Authority to assist with the cost. Ion Design researched, designed, purchased photo rights, coordinated fabrication and delivery for a fee of $5,000 per board.

Bonnie spoke with Tom Gilbert and the budget for this project is $5,000. Bonnie suggested we do the research, design the boards and send to a print shop for fabrication.

Bonnie will select ten properties for consideration. She will submit the list to society members via email for their opinions. Bonnie will reach out to Tom Gilbert for contact information of print shops the town has used. Bonnie will draft a communication letter to property owners for the potential placement of history boards on their property. Bonnie will draft an Authorization/Release form for the agreed placement of a history board on selected properties. Bonnie will ask Tom Gilbert what happens to the history board sign if the property is sold to new owners.

National Historic Registry / Georgetown Chapel (Bonnie)

Bonnie reported the National Registry does not accept applications for churches or graveyards unless the property has historical significance and or unique architectural features. To learn more about the criteria consideration, follow the link below.

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NR_Brochure_Poster_web508.pdf>

Leah motioned to not pursue the application process for the Georgetown Chapel. Penny seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Inventory (Marianne)

Marianne, Penny, and Bonnie worked on inventorying Josephine Gilbert and Diana Stull collections. Marianne will reach out to everyone to schedule a new inventory date.

Then and Now project (Jake, Bonnie)

Bonnie has not taken additional pictures since the last meeting.

Opening the Jamison Building in June (Bob)

Bob will open the building June 4 and 18. Penny and Leah will open June 25. If no one is available on June 11, we will place a sign on the door and walking brochures in the case.

Town Centennial Parade (Ed and Jake)

Ed gave Marianne the thumb drive to give to Jake on Friday.

Ghost Walks (Everyone)

Marianne suggested we have work sessions over the summer to work on this project. We do not hold monthly meetings during July or August. All were in favor of meeting over the summer.

Property Reports (Bonnie & Penny)

* 1 Pennsylvania Drive / Penny Rife Complete
* 35 Fulton Avenue / Kathryn Nicodemus Complete
* 44 Main Street / Curtis & Christina Withrow In process

Exterior Banners (Marianne)

Marianne has ordered a banner for the side of the building that has no window. Marianne suggested we purchase a banner for each porch as the existing banner is beginning to look tattered.

Leah motioned to buy two new banners for the porch in the heavier exterior vinyl. Penny seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Thank You Notes (Penny)

Penny has written and mailed the thank-you notes and donation receipts. Marianne will provide Penny with company letterhead. If a member receives a donated item, please provide Penny with the name, address and information about the donation, she will draft and mail the thank-you notes and donation receipts.

New Discussions

Ed shared with the group his extensive knowledge of Civil War History. Ed described how Union Troops traveled up Rt. 194, passing through the Village of Walkersville along Frederick Street, on their way to the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863.

Ed donated several books, (Frederick History, Walkersville Southern Railroad history) that his sister, Diana Fouble found while assisting with the cleaning/renovation of Town Hall.

Marianne will reach out to Town Manager, Sean Williams regarding the opportunity to view the Monocacy Valley Canning Factory prior to Lonza raising the structure.

Meeting Adjourned.