Walkersville Historical Society

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 6:30 pm 35 W. Pennsylvania Avenue / Jamison Building

Attendees: Bob Hellmuth, Marianne Urban, Leah Fleming, Kathryn & Charlie Nicodemus, Penny Rife, Ed Sell, Jake & Celeste McNiesh and Bonnie Leins. Special Guests: John Nicodemus and Chip Chipley

Finance (Marianne)

* Current status

Marianne reported the current balance in the checking account, $5,104.93.

Library Display (Charlie & Kathryn)

Kathryn and Charlie worked with library and town staff to create a display that highlighted the town’s school history and current town officials and staff. The library reported the display was well received.

* + Charlie purchased two small Walkersville Historical Society signs for the library and future displays.
  + Charlie submitted the receipt, ($100) to Marianne for reimbursement.

Timeline in Historical Society Building (Bonnie)

Bonnie suggested the society purchase poster frames for displays in the building. Currently, the posters are presented on black poster boards. Due to changes in temperature, the poster boards are bowed. Bonnie suggested we purchase poster frames from Amazon. All agreed.

* + Bonnie will purchase the frames and submit the receipt to Marianne for reimbursement. Once the current and or new posters are framed and hung, work on the timeline will begin.

Inventory (Marianne)

* Artifacts

Marianne stressed the importance to examine, catalog, and record each artifact that the society has obtained and or received through donation. Marianne suggested we tackle this task in the near future. The job will take the work of several persons, one to examine the artifact, one to record the artifact into the digital catalog report, and one to generate a tag for the artifact. Marianne suggested we work on this task in the evenings and or Saturdays.

Then and Now project (Jake, Bonnie)

* Select date to do photos.

Bonnie will gather old photos for the project. Everyone is requested to review their photos and pull any that can be used for the project. Bonnie and Jake offered to walk the town and take the current photos. Anyone who wants to join us, please come along.

* + Bonnie will send a group email with a date and time to take the pictures.
  + Jake will do his magic to develop a digital file with the before and after photos.
* Then and Now posters on Facebook

Leah will share the photos on our Facebook page.

Opening the Jamison Building in April (Bob)

* Opening April 2022

Leah has created a calendar in our Google Drive.

* + Bonnie volunteered to work Saturday, April 9th.
  + The society is closed the weekend of Easter, April 16th and 17th.

Facebook (Leah)

* Status

Leah has continued to keep our Facebook page current. Leah requested we send her items to share on FB.

Storage Container (Leah)

Leah is working to clean out the storage bin.

* Leah will move the bin to Marianne’s house where it will be cleaned with a pressure washer.
  + Nick, the Landlord has agreed to placing the storage bin against the exterior wall of the building.

**Special Guests**

* Chip Chipley

Marianne communicated with Mr. Chipley and invited him to the meeting, to share with the society artifacts and stories about his family and their ownership of the Rock Creek Creamery. Mr. Chipley donated to the society digital copies of original documents that pertain to his ancestral family and their association to Walkersville.

* Marianne will upload the documents to the Google Drive.
* John Nicodemus

John Nicodemus, son of Kathryn and Charlie Nicodemus attended the meeting and donated his 1964 Schwinn bicycle. In addition, John drafted a document that explains the history of the artifact and it’s relationship to the Town of Walkersville. A discussion ensued about where and how to hang the bike.

* A decision was made to hang the bike from the rafters and place the document on the wall for visitors to read and relate to the bicycle.

**Sharing**

* Ed Sell

May 23, 1992, Ed videotaped the Walkersville Town Centennial Parade from the corner of Pennsylvania and Fulton Avenue. The tape also has the WVDM Walkersville Centennial Festivities broadcast, and his parent’s home decorated for the event.

* + Ed will take the VHS tape to Carpel Video to create a digital copy.
  + Ed will submit the receipt to Marianne for reimbursement.
  + Once we have a digital copy, Jake will extract pictures for use in future presentations.
* Leah Fleming

Leah obtained from her neighbor, a Kemp numbered print of the Walkersville Railroad station and an old post card sent to former Walkersville resident, Katie Long. Leah donated the artifacts to the society.

* Marianne Urban

On behalf of the society, Marianne purchased two original Walkersville Bank checks issued from JH Stauffer from Ebay. Each artifact cost less than $10.

* Bonnie Leins

Bonnie Leins researched and created a paper document that documents historic news articles and maps related to the Retreat School House, formally located at the corner of Retreat and Fountain Rock Road. Bonnie uploaded a digital copy to the society’s Google Drive and place a hard copy in the research notebook.

* The Town of Walkersville Maintenance Department

The maintenance department donated a 5ft wooden cylinder that was part of the original town water pipe system.

Google Drive

* + Bonnie will send Jake the access information for the society’s Google Drive.

Next Meting

* + April 26, 2022, at 6:30pm