

# **GORDON-WASCOTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**

**FRIDAY JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 4PM**

## **GORDON TOWN HALL**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL-** The meeting was called to order by President Jan Jenson. Also present were Vice President Doug MacDonald, Secretary Becky Keith, Board Member and Historian Brian Finstad, Gift shop coordinator and board member Susan Seningen and Lisa Hall museum coordinator/supervisor. Guests Donnie McConkey and Jim Olmsted joined us as well and were elected to serve on the board.
  
- 2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2, 2023 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES-**  
Brian Finstad made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Doug MacDonald seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  
- 3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 1, 2024 MEETING MINUTES-**  
Doug MacDonald made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Brian Finstad. The motion carried.
  
- 4. APPROVAL OF MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> SPECIAL PLANNING MEETING MINUTES-** Becky Keith made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Susan Seningen. The motion carried.
  
- 5. TREASURERS REPORT-** Barb Fiandt reports the GWHS currently has \$23,708.92 in the account. Generous donor Kate Perry recently donated \$3000 from sales of her art work. We have membership money continuing to come in. The AMICK HISTORIC PARK trading post fund is growing as well. We did receive the \$10,000 gift from the Meffert family/ Presbyterian Church. The balance in the Trading Post Fund is at \$18, 289.51.
  
- 6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**  
All the current officers are willing to continue another year. They include:  
Jan Jenson- President  
Doug MacDonald- Vice President  
Barb Fiandt-Treasurer  
Becky Keith- Secretary  
Phil See and Susan Warring have resigned their positions as board members.  
Donnie McConkey and Jim Olmsted are willing to fill the two board vacancies.  
Susan Seningen made a motion to approve the election of Officers and Board Members. Brian Finstad seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  
- 7. MUSEUM COMMITTEE CHAIR AND SUPERVISORS REPORTS- LISA HALL AND BARB FIANDT**

Volunteers are needed to fill several vacancies on Sundays at the Museum and Depot. Lisa has a signup sheet. Both Anne and Lisa have been working on cleaning out the museum. Lisa reminded us if people care to donate anything there is a form to fill out. This is Anne's last year of working Saturdays. Next year we will need to hire someone for both weekend days.

**8. GIFT SHOP COORDINATORS REPORT-SUSAN SENINEGEN-**

Susan reports we are well stocked for summer. We have plenty of books, T-shirts, hats, coffee cups other items.

**9. HISTORIANS REPORT- INCLUDING MEMORIAL DAY TOURS- BRIAN FINSTAD**

The tours went great and were well attended. Brian Finstad had his Historic Walking Tour of Gordon. Doug MacDonald had the Historic Cemetery Gordon Walking Tour and this has been recorded. The Meffert open house went well and the changes Elyse and Heath have made to the house are quite remarkable. Everyone should try to participate in these tours and open house events.

**10. AMICK HISTORICAL PARK UPDATE-(INCLUDING MEFFERT GRANT)- JAN JENSON, DOUG MACDONALD, BRIAN FINSTAD-**

We are awaiting Steve Balcsik to complete the project. Jim Olmsted does have a bulldozer and will possible be on standby to help complete the ground work so we may move forward with the project.

**11. WORK AND REMODELING PROJECTS UPDATE- BRIAN FINSTAD**

We need to hire an electrician to install several outlets in the depot and a ceiling fan in the museum. Becky will reach out to Dan Siro and see if he is able to do this for us. Luke Schneidenbach is working on the repair list. Becky will be in touch with him to see when he hopes to be finished.

**12. GORDON GOOD NEIGHBOR DAYS "SOUNDS, SWEETS AND MORE" UPDATE- BECKY KEITH AND OTHERS-**

We are collecting items for the silent auction and asking people to donate baked goods or other desserts for the auction. Esther June will be singing from 10-11:30 and Steve Solkela will play from 2:30-4:30. The baked good auction will be at 12:00 and the silent auction will wrap up at 4:30. Hopefully Steve will give many plugs about the auction items. GWHS will have a float. We will have the Putt-Putt car from Chris Kivi on a float trailer, decorate the trailer and fill it with children from Becky's family. Paul Meyer will be the announcer that day and we will ask him to make frequent comments about all that will be happening in the town hall.

**13. WIGWAM PROJECT-**

This will be carried over until next year.

#### **14. OTHER BUSINESS-**

Jim Olmsted applied for a Wisconsin humanities fellowship which could offer working on community based project such as making a recorded history of interest. He will report more about this as he is able.

Jan Jenson has reached out to a company called "That's My Brick" for information regarding the brick project for the Amick Park. They offer customized engraving at a reasonable price. We will look into this more.

Lisa Hall updated our contact list.

#### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

Becky Keith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Susan Seningen. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **6:00 PM "HISTORIC GIBSON CABIN" PRESENTATION**

Jim Olmsted gave a very informative and interesting presentation on the owners and families involved with the Gibson House. The cabin was built in 1915 and had several owners but all within the same family. It was used as a place of respite by the families and for hunting and fishing for five generations. Ownership changed in 1968 when the Wild Rivers Act was initiated by Walter Mondale, which forced many families off the St Croix River. The Stocking family was able to negotiate a 25 year lease through the National Park Service. In 1984 the cabin was robbed and all the furniture antiques and other items were stolen. In 1999 when the lease ended, the National Park Service rendered the cabin uninhabitable and broke windows, slashed screens, and destroyed what was left of the interior. In 2005 a new roof was put on the cabin and the screens repaired. In 2012 the North Country Trail came through the property and Jim was instrumental in building the trail. Thanks to Jim Olmsted and local groups, the Gibson Cabin is hopefully going to be put on the National Historic Registry.

Thanks Jim for a most informative presentation!