

Hartland Area Historical Society
Board Minutes
June 8, 2009

Trustees Present: Tami Cain, Hildy Foley, Mike Forster, Janet Frick, Scott Kulsavage, Tom Parshall, Diana Wells
Curator: Nadine Cloutier
Registrar: Emma Winegarner
Member at Large: Leo Bard

Before the meeting began, Tom Parshall read an old story passed down through oral history, from one generation to the other, through the Hubbell family-which was one of the pioneering families of Hartland. The story relates the experiences of the family in the Hartland wilderness and with the Indian residents. It was told to Arvilla Parshall by her father, who was told by his father, Sardis who was 14 when his family moved from Ohio to the Hartland area in 1835.

An historic Indian basket which had been made locally, was brought to the meeting. The basket has been donated to the museum collection by Tom Parshall's Aunt Phyllis Parshall and Arvilla (Hubbell) Parshall had given it to Phyllis.

1.Call to Order and Attendance, Welcome to Newcomers and New (Pending) Officers:

President Tom Parshall called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. at the residence of Scott Kulsavage.

2.Election of Officers:

The same Trustees will remain Trustees. Carolyn Lynch will be a new Trustee; Hildy Foley nominated Janet Frick as secretary and was seconded by Diana Wells; Tom Parshall will again be President, as nominated by Mike Forster; Diana Wells, Vice President as nominated by Hildy Foley and supported by Mike

Forster; Sheryl Cone was nominated for treasurer, by Hildy Foley and supported by Diana Wells. All officers were elected unanimously.

3.Approval of Minutes from May 20th Meeting:

President Tom Parshall announced that the minutes from the May 20th meeting had been approved.

4.Treasurer's Report:

Tom Parshall stated that all had looked at the report and that he thought we should put another \$7,000 in CDs. He stated that half of the fee has been paid toward the museum remodeling costs and half is still to be paid and that these fixed costs are known.

A premier savings account was discussed as being able to earn more than the CDs and this will be brought up at the next meeting when the Treasurer is present. Accounts will probably remain at National City with the help of Janice Wright.

Tom stated that the HAHS is doing very well through bringing money in and being frugal with it.

Scott Kulsavage mentioned two different Hartland residents as potential donors, yet didn't know as yet how much would be donated.

5.Collection Committee Report:

Nadine Cloutier stated that she and Emma would continue to inventory the most recent acquisitions and getting those cleared up instead of having them laying around unaccounted for, getting into the cadence of that, and beginning the photographing.

Nadine and Emma Winegarner will be looking through catalogs for supplies to order. There are some sales closing out at the end of this month and some on the 31st with better prices. Nadine stated that out of the budget of \$1,000 there was about \$500.00 left to spend. Tom stated that an amendment to the budget could also be made for whatever would be needed and that the HHS is running under budget in all areas, which is very good.

Nadine said that perhaps some materials could be obtained to preserve the historical books better, for example that there are bookshelves for transporting which keep the books upright and can be used for the rarer books, smaller books and ledgers, now tied down, which would hold one book in place. Further, that perhaps some zip-lock bags in a variety of sizes instead of just the mylar could be ordered so other documents like calling cards won't fall out so easily. They have already got mylar sleeves for things to go in the photo document boxes.

Emma and Nadine will be working throughout the summer to get things better organized in the collections storage room. Cabinets were discussed, and how advantageous it would be to have something like what they have (at the school) upstairs at the museum for storage.

Emma said that she had gotten through just about all of the books that had been retrieved from the library and the others will have a loose tag inside with an ID number for identification in the mean time.

Emma thought they should start with present non-inventoried acquisitions and work their way back.

Nadine said that during Hartland Area project 2000 that people were giving her things from 1995 which hadn't been officially put into their system yet and this would soon be done, yet reported they were making good progress in all areas.

6. Museum renovations update

Review Window Information-This was not ready to be reviewed tonight.

Permit Extension applied for-Tom stated that he had applied for this on Friday and that we are all good on that.

5 items left to complete for inspection-These are all little things, yet Tom and Rich are so swamped right now that they can't get down to building, yet in next two weeks they want to frame **openings large enough for a person to crawl into underneath and one on top**, and little things like that which will be problematical if they don't do them.

Nadine asked about the **garage door** and Tom replied that they would just try to put dry-wall over it for now, because if they are going to put a real door there they want one that looks just like the previous door and that whether it

opens or not it should look like the mentioned door. This is the lean-to door, the latest addition on the building. They will see what the inspector says.

The flag case: Tom suggested that it be built into the building since it's such a big-ticket item, with cabinets underneath. A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of built-in cases as opposed to movable and where the flag-case should be placed in the museum building. The case will have to be very large for the flag. A case with a drawer for displaying smaller war memorabilia was discussed-perhaps with items wired down and covered so that they couldn't be easily removed. The case won't have to be technically special except for the size and there are plenty of funds available for doing it. $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1 in thickness in Plexiglas would be needed for support of a continuous 5 x 10 ft. top, weighing 2 to 300 pounds at around \$2500 dollars. It will be supported around the edges, table height, away from a light, in a cool place. A cover over the Plexiglas would prevent scratches. If the cabinet is 5 ft. deep, it would need 5 clear feet in front of to open a drawer if one were to be built in. Specifications for opening tops were discussed, as well as specimen drawers and what sizes and how many drawers underneath. Everything will have locks. Further stated was that Plexiglas will haze over time, yet can be polished and the question of what wall would be best. Antiqued, distressed oak wood will probably be used to match the other items in building,

7.Upcoming Events

Ice Cream Social

The 26th of July, 1 to 3:00 P.M; responsibilities for who brings what discussed. Diane makes the ice cream and the cost for supplies is around \$200.00 (but cut-rate stuff for kids). It will be advertised in the newsletter, put on bulletin boards, newspapers. Museum will be open and it was noted that people enjoy seeing the renovation work in progress.

Heritage Day 3rd Sat. in Sept.

Possibility of Live Steam:

Use of a steam engine will be discussed with the "township" to hear what they say. Tom stated that Marion twp. had live steam at their history day which proves it can be done and Tom can call Bill Fountain and tell him they are

doing it “over there” and for Bill to find out how they are doing it. Having enough room is an issue, and Tami Cain talked about finding out if Nancy Nawrocki’s land could be used.

Tractors are not problematical for Heritage Day because they can park on street, but the steam engine is another matter, because of its weight, boiler certification and insurance requirements. Tom reiterated the importance of having the steam engine but there were some specific things to be solved: A place with sod and not concrete and whether we can get the township to extend their insurance to protect us while we operate the steam engine. Leo Bard offered that it would make steam and smoke so doesn’t want it next to museum, or library. It will be used for steaming the corn. A display might be desired, like a sawmill. That display would be most impressive, yet corn is a money maker, only needing squirt margarine and salt. It was emphasized again that Nawrocki’s property would work perfectly.

Possibility of Pig Roast:

Tom suggested buying two-day old bread, at the Wonder bread store and buying them out two days in a row. Tom will call Richardson’s and the pork will be brought all cooked and ready to go.

Other Items discussed:

Tami Cain will try to get the most entertaining musical group from this year’s Heritage Day, for all day this year.

Heritage day will be talked about again at the next meeting.

8.Projector Information:

Tom Parshall suggested a good all around, rugged, fairly inexpensive projector. Tom likes the projector which has 3,000 lumen which is very bright. Most are around 2200 lumens. There are quite a few different inputs, 2300 to one contrast ratio, aspect ratio of 16 to 9, digital video, PGA, composites, and USB and a lot of interfaces where if you wanted to hook one of these new Blu-Ray players to it or laptop or if you just wanted to plug in an old beat-up VCR. He deals with Tiger Direct The projector is an Optima with 230 watt bulb, and for \$699 it has good resolution. A display could be done above the flag, or behind a different display. This would provide a passive way to captivate people. The

public wants to be entertained. Number one requests have been to see the flag and the Hartland School year book pictures. The pictures stopped in about '78 or '79. The pictures aren't done as well now.

No budget amendment was needed for purchase of the projector. Tom will buy the projector and then be reimbursed.

The possibility of making movies depicting historical aspects of Hartland was discussed and how it would be good to have someone photographing, for instance, events such as Peter Swallow's Indian History lecture.

9.Indian Basket:

It isn't known how old the basket is. Emma read the story, which Tom had read just before the meeting, as more people were present to hear it now. Several people around Hartland own baskets which were made at the Indian encampment near the intersection of Clark and Dunham Rd. Arvilla Parshall was a Hubbell before she married Jay.

Tami Cain asked about Indian displays. Tom said that the Indian artifacts like other displays will be put into the museum on a rotating basis. The advantages to the web-site were touted by Tammy who stated what wonderful value it has been to her students, who turned in wonderful historical projects with information gained from the web-site. Her students are giving tours of Hartland village and a lot of the information came from the web-site.

10.Comments by the board:

Museum: Tom Parshall praised the flowers around the museum, as well as Scott for sand-blasting, Diane for the paint. Mike will be working on restoration. Janet Frick spoke of historical signs to go with the plants to be made in conjunction with Questers. Scott is concerned that mower people be careful that stones are not be thrown by mowers, against the windows. Hildy commented on the many people coming to the postal exhibit on Memorial day. Hildy spoke of the importance of the mail box being secured so that a child couldn't topple it. Tom reported that eventually a biometric lock will be put on the front door, and opened by thumb print.

Information Packets: It was mentioned that it would be a good idea for an information packet to be given to new (prospective) members of the board which would include when and where upcoming meetings would be held as far as are known.

HAHS: President Tom Parshall mentioned that the Hartland Historical Society is doing very well, that the bank balance keeps going up and things are getting done in a timely fashion which is indicative of a healthy organization and that a lot of fun is being had, as well. Diana Wells reported that The HAHS has a mailing list of 187 people, not all members, yet Tom believes that membership is increasing. He also reports that we're having a lot of fun.

Newsletter: Diana Wells requested newsletter items, including photographs. Items should be received by her, before the end of the month. It was suggested that lists of the flowers in the garden and history of plants could be included in a newsletter. A fun exploration, a learning treasure hunt, by way of example, "how many coffin doors can you find in Hartland?" was suggested.

Computer Access: There was a discussion of computer access to Historical Society Data programs. Diana stressed the sensitivity of some of the data keeping forms, and how one has to be careful of how data is entered.

11.Meeting Adjournment:

Tom Parshall adjourned the meeting with unanimous agreeing vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Wilkinson Frick, Secretary

Next Meeting

Monday, July 13-@Tom Parshall's
7:00 P.M.