

Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 8, 2023

Location: Knowlton-Risteen Building

Call to Order

Having a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM in the Faye Room of the Knowlton-Risteen building.

In Attendance

Committee Members:

- Tom Bair - Chair- PRESENT
- Bill Taylor - PRESENT
- Craig Weinfuss - PRESENT
- Joan Scribner - PRESENT
- Larry Doucette - PRESENT

Discussion

Minutes

Secretaries Report from 1/12/23 was received and accepted as revised.
Tom made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report from 1/12/23 was received and accepted.
Tom made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Unanimously accepted.

Historical Society Advertising:

- Tom asked if we should purchase advertising in the phone book, or the Mendon/Upton newspaper. Bill suggested that we could write an article for the newspaper.

Website:

- Tom raised a discussion about moving away from the Rootsweb. We might consider moving to

GoDaddy.

- Linda might be able to help with the website.
- Tom suggested that we might add the website hosting into the budget which would be \$30 per month.
- Maybe we could take the funds for web hosting out of the Technology Fund.

Library relocation:

- Tom raised the topic of how the library relocation to the Community Center will impact the Historical Society.
- On April 16th the library vacates the building.
- When the library leaves, the Historical Society will lose internet connection.
- We could purchase Spectrum which is \$76 a month. We could get a phone through Spectrum, which is \$20 dollars a month for a total of \$96 dollars. We would then drop Verizon.
- Bill suggested that we could ask Spectrum if there is a non-profit rate.
- What changes when the library moves out?
- *Walk in visitors
- *Heat. The Risteen building uses natural gas.
- *Internet
- *Electricity
- *Could freezing pipes in library be a problem?
- *Historical Society loses the maintenance for the building. IE - putting salt down,ect.
- Should the Historical Society consider giving the BOS monthly rent?

Warrant Article Citizen's Petition for not selling the Knowlton-Risteen Building

- We need to have a prepared statement to address the Historical Society's stance on the citizen's petition.
- The Warrant article has been submitted. We cannot change the verbiage until the actual meeting.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Schedule an independent meeting to discuss our proposal for the future of the Historical Society and the museum. We should be proactive about what we want our future to be; otherwise, our future will be decided for us by an outside party. We should communicate our vision with stakeholders.

Alisa Bernat:

- Alisa Bernat spoke to Tom. She works with the Friends of the Library. They have hired a man to provide a program on local history. He will be conducting research on the history of Upton.
- The program will be on the 29th of April and 13th of May. It is entitled: "Celebrating Upton - Sharing Stories".
- Alisa wants to know if the Historical Society will be a co-sponsor of the programs.
- The Historical Society would like to collaborate with this presentation.

Cultural Council Grant for Archival preservation:

- The Cultural Council Grant received was for \$1500.
- Tom wants to order more storage boxes with the grant money.
- Tom put together an order for boxes. The order was close to \$658.

Technology:

- Larry raised a discussion concerning getting an external hard drive. He is onsidering a Buffalo 4TB harddrive for \$165.
- Received unanimous approval to purchase the external hard drive.

Calendar:

- The Chair set the next meeting date for **????**.

Meeting Adjourned

Tom Bair made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joan. A roll call was taken and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Weinfuss, Secretary